

SMOKE SIGNALS

For Radio Amateurs • By Radio Amateurs

Published Monthly Since 1969 • Our 30th Year

Single Copy: \$1.25

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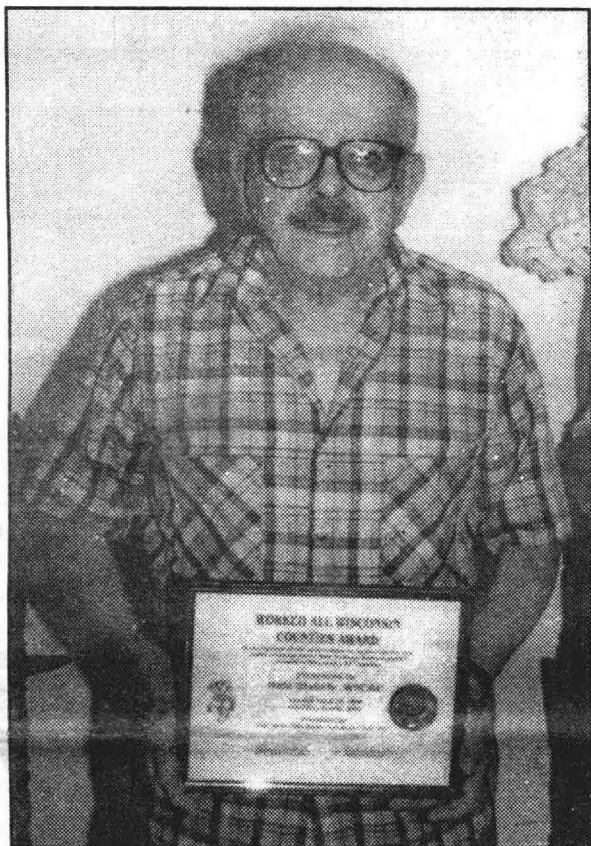
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W9CBE Gets WAWC #1

Hale Blakely, W9CBE, McFarland, WI, at right, received Worked All Wisconsin Counties award #1 from the West Allis Radio Amateur Club. In addition, Wisconsin Governor Tommy G. Thompson recognized Hale's operating achievement in a personal letter, reproduced below. Rules and information about the WAWC award are available from WARAC, P.O. Box 1072, Milwaukee, WI 53201, or at <http://www.WARAC.org>.

Photo/info courtesy Lynn Tamblyn, K9KR



TOMMY G. THOMPSON

Governor
State of Wisconsin

June 16, 1999

Hale Blakely
5117 Glen Road
McFarland, WI 53558

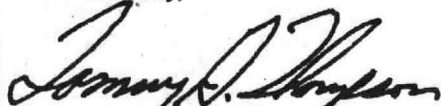
Dear Mr. Blakely:

On behalf of the State of Wisconsin, I am pleased and proud to commend you for being the first amateur radio operator in the world to receive the Worked All Wisconsin Counties Award.

This is a tremendous accomplishment that few can claim to have achieved in their lifetime. Your hard work and dedication has earned you the respect of fellow ham radio operators and has enhanced the reputation of this great state. I hope you will continue to use your ham radio skills to make a positive impact in the lives of other Wisconsin residents.

Congratulations on all you have accomplished and best of luck to you in the future.

Sincerely,


TOMMY G. THOMPSON
Governor

TGT/gjs

Scholarship Winners Announced

RIVERDALE, MD - The Foundation for Amateur Radio has announced the winners of scholarships for the 1999-2000 academic year.

The Foundation administers the scholarships without charge to the sponsors. Sixty-seven scholarships were awarded. These scholarships were open to all licensed radio amateurs meeting the qualifications and residence requirements of the various sponsors.

The Foundation is a non-profit organization incorporated in the District of Columbia, representing more than seventy-five Amateur Radio clubs in Maryland, the District of Columbia, and northern Virginia. It is devoted exclusively to the scientific, literary and educational pursuits that advance the purposes of the Amateur Radio Service.

The announcement for the year 2000 awards will appear in the January or February issues of the major Amateur Radio publications and selected radio club newsletters.

Three philanthropic Wisconsin Amateur Radio clubs offer scholarships through FAR. Here are the clubs and the winners of this year's awards:

WARAC Memorial Scholarships (West Allis Radio Amateur Club)

Two at \$1000.00 each

Phillip A. Bogacki, KB9KEE, Milwaukee, WI

Christopher D. Molek, KB9GTK, Richland Center, WI



South Milwaukee Amateur Radio Club Scholarships

Four at \$500.00 each

Jeffrey D. Koch, N9XMM, Wisconsin Rapids, WI

Michael R. Placek, KB9SCH, Oak Creek, WI

Jamison R. Rueckert, N9XRC, New Berlin, WI

Joseph A. Streeter, AA9TV, Fond du Lac, WI

Ozaukee Radio Club Scholarship

One at \$1000.00

Michael M. Imrick, KB9LPJ, Mason, WI

More information about scholarships administered by FAR is available from FAR Scholarships, Post Office Box 831, Riverdale, MD 20738. □

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Edited by Kenneth A. Ebnetter, K9EN, 822 Wauona Trail, Portage, WI 53901 • kebnetter@palacenet.net

Swapfests and Other Social Events

SUNDAY, AUGUST 8, 1999. HAMNIC: The Marshfield Area ARS will be holding their annual potluck picnic and swapfest. Wildwood Park, Marshfield WI. Gather around 11:00 a.m. Contact: Guy A. Boucher, KF9XX, 107 West Third St., Marshfield, WI 54449. (715) 348-4323. Packet: KF9XX @ W9IHW.E5.AI.WI.USA.NA e-mail: guyboucher@txnet.com

SATURDAY, AUGUST 14, 1999. Circus City Swapfest, Sauk County Fairgrounds, highway 33, east side of Baraboo, WI. 7:00 a.m. until noon. Contact: Steve Schulze, N9UDO, (608) 356-2313/356-4777 or Bill Klinkner, N9KXX, (608) 643-6908/643-6453. e-mail: <http://www.thelorax.com/~sschulze/hamfest.html>

SUNDAY, AUGUST 29, 1999. Woodstock Hamfest, McHenry County Fairgrounds, Woodstock, IL. Contact: (708) 944-0500. e-mail: TCRG@Quality-Enterprises.com

SATURDAY-SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 18-19, 1999. Peoria Superfest, Exposition Gardens, Peoria, IL. Contact: (309) 692-FEST(3378) e-mail: www.w9uvi.org

SATURDAY, SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 25-26, 1999. RADIO EXPO 99, Lake County Fairgrounds, Grayslake, IL. Contact: (708) 457-0966. <http://www.chicagomfclub.org>

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 1, 1999. Racine Megacycle Club Amateur Radio & Computer Auction. Knights of Columbus Hall, 13249 Washington Ave., Racine WI.

Badger State Smoke Signals

*Amateur Radio
Education and Information*

CHAIRMAN: Kenneth A. Ebnetter, K9EN, 822 Wauona Trail, Portage, WI 53901. Telephone (608) 742-3560. kebnetter@palacenet.net

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Subscriptions

1 year	(12 issues)	\$13.95
2 years	(24 issues - save \$1.95)	\$25.95
3 years	(36 issues - save \$3.90)	\$37.95

Subscription form is on page 5. Special club package reduced rates are available. For information, contact Ken Ebnetter, K9EN.

When to Send It

The closing date for each issue is the first of the month for the next month's issue. For example, the closing date for the June issue is May 1. The only exception is for participating clubs' minutes. Participating clubs are requested to send their material no later than FIVE DAYS after the club's meeting. For example, if a club meets on the 4th of the month, the material should be sent no later than

www2.wi.net/~hamradio/auction.html

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 30, 1999. HAMFEST Minnesota & Computer Expo. St. Paul, MN. contact: (612)535-0637. <http://www.hamfestmn.org>

SATURDAY, JANUARY 8, 2000. 28th Midwinter Swapfest, Waukesha County Expo Center Forum, Waukesha, WI. Contact: WARAC Swapfest, PO Box 1072, Milwaukee, WI 53201, or call Phil, W9NAW (414) 425-3649.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 9, 2000. South Bend Hamfest, South Bend, IN. Contact: Michiana Valley Hamfest Association, 21970 Kern Road, South Bend 46614.

SATURDAY, MAY 6, 2000. Ozaukee Radio Club 22nd Annual Radio and Computer Swapfest, Circle-B Recreation Center, Highways 60 and County I (located 20 miles north of Milwaukee, west of Grafton). Contact: Joe Holly, ORC Swapfest Chairman, 1702 Holly Lane, Grafton, WI 53024. (414) 377-2137 or Skip Douglas (414) 284-3271. Note: Area code will change to 262 after September 1999.

SATURDAY, JULY 8, 1999. South Milwaukee Amateur Radio Club Swapfest, American Legion Park, Shepard Avenue, South Milwaukee, WI. Contact South Milwaukee ARC, P.O. Box 102, South Milwaukee, WI 53172. (414) 762-3235.

See also the back page and watch for flyer ads for additional information on many of these events.

Let us know of your dates as soon as you know them. We will list them and perhaps help avoid conflicts with other events.

As a service to our readers, this section of Badger State Smoke Signals is available without charge to list your

the 9th of that month. This material is to be sent to the Editor.

Where to Send It

Address changes and corrections, and exchange papers should be sent to Ken Ebnetter.

Editorial material, photographs, and feature articles should be sent to Jim Romelfanger.

Inquiries about advertising should be directed to Ken Ebnetter. Club, swapfest, and Test Point information should be sent to Ken Ebnetter.

Swapfest ADS should be sent to Jim Romelfanger **NO LATER THAN EIGHT WEEKS BEFORE THE EVENT'S DATE.**

Subscriptions should be sent, with check or money order, to Ken Ebnetter.

Conditions for Reprinting or BBS Posting Material from Badger State Smoke Signals

Permission is hereby granted to reprint articles or posting articles on radio or telephone bulletin boards from *Badger State Smoke Signals*, providing credit is given to the original author, publication in which the article first appeared, and to *Badger State Smoke Signals*. **THIS CREDIT IS MANDATORY, AND NO MATERIAL MAY BE PRINTED OR POSTED UNLESS IT IS GIVEN.**

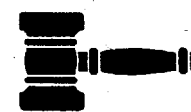
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Badger State Smoke Signals is incorporated as a Wisconsin non-stock, non-for-profit organization.

Editorial Disclaimer

The opinions expressed in editorials, guest editorials, columns, articles, and letters from readers are the opinions of the authors only, and do not, unless otherwise stated, express or imply endorsement by *Badger State Smoke Signals*, or by any other individual or organization.

upcoming Swapfest, Hamfest, dinner, picnic, party or other event of interest to Radio Amateurs in Wisconsin and nearby areas. Send information on your event to Kenneth A. Ebnetter, K9EN, 822 Wauona Trail, Portage, WI 53901. In addition, space is available at attractive rates on our advertising pages. For information on rates and requirements for our advertising pages, please contact K9ZZ or K9EN.



CLUB MEETINGS

Due to space limitations we cannot always carry the full listing of Wisconsin and area club meetings. Please save the following listings for your future reference. We hope to have the full listing several times a year, and will carry any changes or additions between full listings.

It has been several months since the last listing, so some of the following information may be out of date. If your club information is not correct please get the information to Ken Ebnetter, K9EN at the address listed on page 2. If your club is not listed, please send him your club information.

ARROWHEAD RADIO AMATEUR CLUB, INC.

(Superior, WI)

The monthly meeting of the ARAC is held on the second Tuesday of the month at the WITC Conference Center, 600 N. 21st Street, Superior, Wisconsin, at 7:30 p.m. Board meetings are held prior to the regular meeting.

BADGER AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY

(W9YT - U. W. - MADISON)

Monthly while school in session - 2nd Tue. - 5:30 p.m. - B-265G, Electrical Engineering Bldg. For more information call (608) 262-1142.

CENTRAL WISCONSIN RADIO AMATEURS

(STEVENS POINT)

Second Wed.

EAU CLAIRE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

2nd Tuesday of each month 7:30 PM at the Eau Claire, Parks & Recreation Building, 1300 First Ave, Eau Claire, WI 54703. For more information contact: Jim Staatz K9MV 715-838-9108 or kg9mv@ecol.net. Club callsign: W9EAU

FALLS AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC

The Falls Amateur Radio Club, Inc. meets the last Wednesday of the month at the Bank One building in Germantown, WI at Pilgrim and Mequon Roads. The doors open at 7:00 p.m. and the meeting will begin at 7:30 p.m. **!!GUESTS ARE WELCOME!!**

FOUR LAKES

AMATEUR RADIO CLUB (MADISON WI)

First and third Tues - 7:30 p.m. - Red Cross Bldg., 4860 Sheboygan Ave., room "C" downstairs. It is the next building west of the Hill Farms State Office building. The meetings start promptly at 7:30 pm.

FOX CITIES AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

Third Mon. - 7:00 p.m. - Madison Junior High School, 2020 South Carpenter Street, Appleton, WI. Info: Chad (414) 993-0485.

GREATER MILWAUKEE DX ASSOCIATION

Fourth Monday of the month at 7:30 p.m. Contact any GMDXA member or Gary Schwartz, K9GS, (414) 363-4439, garyk9gs@solaria.sol.net, K9GS@WA9KEC.WI.USA.NOAM, Packet cluster: NB9C,

for meeting location.

GREEN BAY MIKE AND KEY CLUB

Second Thur. 7:30 pm - Media Services area of the J. M. Science Building at St. Norbert College in DePere.

GREEN FOX AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

Third Mon. - 7:30 p.m. - Green Lake Town Hall, int. of county hwy's K and N.

KETTLE MORAINÉ RADIO AMATEURS

Second Fri., 7:30 p.m. at the Waukesha County Technical College, Campus Science Building, Room 102. Talk-in on the N9KS 147.39 repeater.

LAKESHORE RPTR. ASSN.

Last Tue., Jan., Apr., Jul., & Oct., 7:30 p.m. Red Cross Bldg., 4521 Taylor Ave., Racine, WI.

M & M AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

General meeting held second Thursday each month at 7:00 p.m. in cafeteria of BAMC, basement, Tenth Ave., Menominee, MI. All amateurs and guests are welcome. Use the 147.000+ repeater. Our net is Sunday at 7:00 p.m. on the repeater. Our address is P.O. Box 1082, Marinette, WI 54143.

MANITOWOC COUNTY RADIO AMATEURS

Directors Meeting: First Wed. Held at 6:30 p.m. in the basement, Manitowoc City Hall, 817 Franklin St., Manitowoc.

General meeting: Second Wed. Held at 7:30 p.m. at Associated Manitowoc Bank, corner of 10th and Franklin Streets.

MILWAUKEE RADIO AMATEURS CLUB

Last Thursday evening, Redemption Lutheran Church, 4057 North Mayfair Road, Wauwatosa 53222. Meetings begin at 7:30 p.m. 12 months of the year.

NORTHWOODS ARC (RHINELANDER WI)

Third Tue. Doors open at 7:00 p.m. Meeting at 7:30 p.m. South Park School, Rhineland, WI. Talk-in on 146.94/34. All interested visitors to the Northwoods are welcomed.

OZAUKEE RADIO CLUB

Second Wed. - 7:30 p.m. - Grafton Multipurpose Senior Center.

QCWA - WISCONSIN CHAPTER #55

Contact Erwin Froelich, W9RZW, Treasurer, W3449 Badger Road, Pine River WI 54965. For information about meeting dates or joining QCWA Chapter #55. The Wisconsin Chapter holds Spring and Fall dinner meetings on the first Saturday of June and October.

QCWA - SOUTHEAST WISCONSIN CHAPTER #162

Meets third Mon. monthly, 7:30 p.m., Around the Clock Restaurant, 3012 Rapids Drive, Racine.

RACINE MEGACYCLE CLUB

Second Mon., 7:30 p.m., Red Cross Bldg., 4521 Taylor Ave., Racine, WI

RADIO AMATEURS OF WISCONSIN (R.A.W.) OSHKOSH, WI

R.A.W. is a family oriented club, in which most of its activities revolve around family doings and outings. Meetings are on the 3rd Saturday of each month at various locations. If you are a Ham or are interested in Ham radio, contact Mark Miller, N9WT, (920) 231-1662 or Jeff Oppermann N9OSB, (920) 233-7961. We are always looking for good people to join us.

RED CEDAR REPEATER ASSOCIATION, INC.

Saturday coffee at Hardees in North Menomonee, corner of Highways 12 and 25 at 9:00 a.m. Social hour on 4th Tuesday at 7:30 p.m. at The Peppermill Too, 1414 9th Street in the L-Mart shopping center, for the months of January, March, April and September through November. Guests welcome.

RIVERLAND AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

First Tue. - 7:00 p.m. - Onalaska Community Center, Onalaska WI.

ROCK RIVER RADIO CLUB

Monthly - first Tue. - 7:30 p.m. at Dodge County Administration Building, 127 East Oak Street, Juneau, WI.

ARES Net: 146.04/146.64 Mondays at 7:30 p.m. Sat.s on 7277 KHz at 10:30 a.m.

SHEBOYGAN COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

Second Tue. - 7:00 p.m. - Sheboygan Red Cross/Boy Scout Bldg., 2032 Erie Ave.

SOUTH MILWAUKEE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

First Wed. - Legion Post 434, Shepard Ave., Oak Creek WI. Auctions in March and October.

ST. CROIX VALLEY RADIO AMATEURS HUDSON

Club meetings are held on the third Tuesday of each month at the St. Croix County Emergency Government Center on Charmicael Road in Hudson, WI. A short business meeting begins at 7:30 p.m. followed by the program. Talk in is available on the 145.130 MHz repeater. All are welcome!

TAYLOR COUNTY AREA AMATEUR RADIO CLUB (TCAARC) MEDFORD

Usually the 1st Thur. of the month at 7:00 PM sharp. Usual location: emergency government meeting room/Red Cross office, basement of Sheriff's Annex to Taylor County Courthouse, 2nd and Ogden Sts., Medford, WI. Talk-in on 147.15 (+600) repeater. Amateurs & guests are welcome. ARES Net, Wed. nights at 8:30 PM on 147.15 (+600) repeater. For info contact: Mike Schoenfuss, N9GHZ, P.O. Box 401, Abbotsford, WI 54405, phone (715) 223-3996.

TRI-COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

Meetings held at members homes. Usually monthly on Sunday afternoon. Contact: Glenn Eisenbrandt, (414) 563-6502 or John Saterlee, (414) 563-6381.

WASHINGTON COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

Second Thursday, 7:30 p.m., Washington County Court House. Net on Thursdays at 7:30 p.m. on 146.73.

WATERTOWN AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

First Thur. of the month at 7:00 p.m., The Watertown Public Library, 100 S. Water St., Watertown, WI.

WAUPACA AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

"CQ First Tue." - A social gathering and Dutch treat luncheon at the King's Table in King, WI, on Highway QQ just south of highways 10 and 54 on the west side of Waupaca. Gather at 11:00 - 11:30. Order at noon. Club business transacted.

"CQ Third Fri." A social gathering and Dutch treat dinner, semi-formal, "OM & XYL" at one of the better supper clubs in the area. Check Waupaca 147.390 nets at 8:00 a.m. or 8:50 p.m. for that month's meeting place.

WEST ALLIS RADIO AMATEUR CLUB

Second Tue. - 8:00 p.m. - St. Peters Episcopal Church, 7929 Lincoln Ave. Entrance is at rear of building on alley.

THE WINNEBAGO AMATEUR RADIO CLUB (Formerly the Oshkosh Amateur Radio Club)

The Winnebago ARC welcomes all Amateurs and interested persons to join us at the Oshkosh Armory on Armory Place, Oshkosh, WI. Meetings are held the third Sunday each month at 1600 hrs. Talk in on 147.24 repeater.

For further information contact KB9IME, Dan Lenz, at (414) 23 233-7145.

WISCONSIN ASSOCIATION OF REPEATERS

Meetings are held Quarterly, with time and location to be announced. Repeater licensees, trustees, and sponsors are urged to attend W.A.R. meetings. All interested parties are welcome, as well.

WISCONSIN RAPIDS AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

Third Wednesday, 7:00 p.m. in room 114 of the Wood County Court House. Talk-in on 146.79 for entry into the building.

WISCONSIN VALLEY RADIO ASSOCIATION (WAUSAU)

First Tue. - 7:30 p.m. - Location varies; info on 146.04/64, Wausau.

YELLOW THUNDER AMATEUR RADIO CLUB (BARABOO)

The club meetings are usually held on the first Tuesday of each month at the Baraboo Civic Center starting at 7:30 p.m. For latest information see the YTARC column elsewhere in this issue.

Let Badger State Smoke Signals know your club's meeting dates, and we will let our readers know of your meetings and activities. There may be Amateurs in your area interested in joining your club, or members of other clubs interested in making an interclub visit.

The Test Point



Amateur Radio Examination Locations and Schedules in the Wisconsin Area

August 07, 1999	Oshkosh (Omro), WI
August 07, 1999	St. Paul, MN
August 12, 1999	Apple Valley, MN
August 14, 1999	Blaine, MN
August 14, 1999	Madison, WI
August 17, 1999	Eden Prairie, MN
August 21, 1999	Cottage Grove, MN
August 21, 1999	Loves Park, IL
August 21, 1999	Milwaukee, WI (BE)
August 21, 1999	Oshkosh, WI (R.A.W.)
August 21, 1999	Stevens Point, WI
August 28, 1999	Bloomington, MN
August 28, 1999	Milwaukee, WI (MRAC)
August 28, 1999	Tomahawk, WI
September 04, 1999	Oshkosh (Omro), WI
September 04, 1999	Racine, WI
September 04, 1999	St. Paul, MN
September 09, 1999	Apple Valley, MN
September 11, 1999	Blaine, MN
September 11, 1999	Madison, WI
September 11, 1999	Onalaska, WI
September 11, 1999	Sheboygan, WI
September 18, 1999	Cottage Grove, MN
September 18, 1999	Loves Park, IL
September 18, 1999	Milwaukee, WI (BE)
September 21, 1999	Eden Prairie, MN
September 25, 1999	Bloomington, MN
September 25, 1999	Milwaukee, WI (MRAC)
September 25, 1999	Tomahawk, WI
October 02, 1999	Oshkosh (Omro), WI
October 02, 1999	Racine, WI
October 02, 1999	St. Paul, MN
October 09, 1999	Blaine, MN
October 09, 1999	Eau Claire, WI
October 09, 1999	Madison, WI
October 14, 1999	Apple Valley, MN
October 16, 1999	Cottage Grove, MN
October 16, 1999	Loves Park, IL
October 16, 1999	Milwaukee, WI (BE)
October 16, 1999	Oshkosh, WI (R.A.W.)
October 19, 1999	Eden Prairie, MN
October 23, 1999	Bloomington, MN
October 30, 1999	Milwaukee, WI (MRAC)
October 30, 1999	Tomahawk, WI
November 06, 1999	Menomonee, WI
November 06, 1999	Onalaska, WI
November 06, 1999	Oshkosh (Omro), WI
November 06, 1999	Racine, WI
November 06, 1999	St. Paul, MN
November 11, 1999	Apple Valley, MN
November 13, 1999	Blaine, MN
November 13, 1999	Madison, WI
November 16, 1999	Eden Prairie, MN
November 16, 1999	Sheboygan, WI
November 20, 1999	Cottage Grove, MN
November 20, 1999	Loves Park, IL
November 20, 1999	Milwaukee, WI (BE)
November 27, 1999	Bloomington, MN
November 27, 1999	Milwaukee, WI (MRAC)
December 04, 1999	Oshkosh (Omro), WI
December 04, 1999	Racine, WI
December 04, 1999	St. Paul, MN
December 09, 1999	Apple Valley, MN
December 11, 1999	Blaine, MN

(continued on page 15)

OZAUKEE RADIO CLUB

Field Day Report

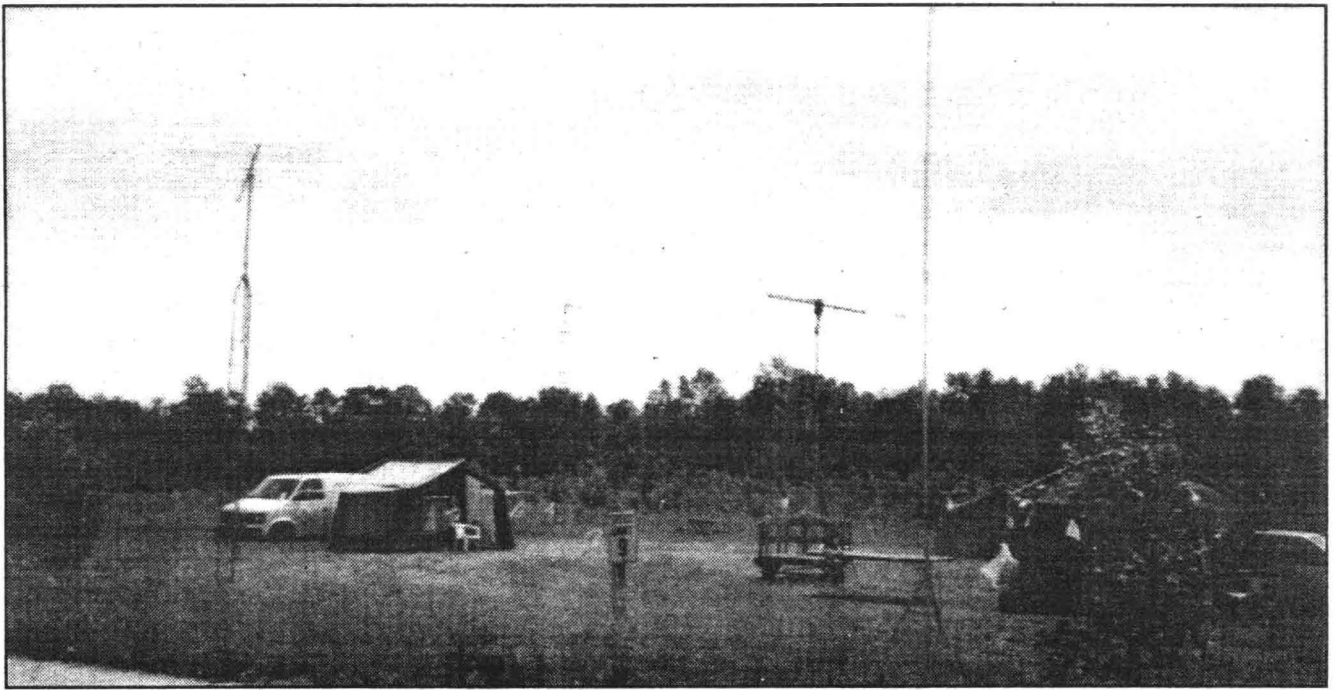
Nels Harvey, WA9JOB

Thursday, June 24, a group of volunteers from the Ozaukee Radio Club met at the Black Wheel parking lot, where they were transported to the storage barn to move the Field Day tents and equipment. Those with trucks, or trailers, assembled across the street at the Cedarburg water tank, and moved to the barn as needed. This kept the multitudes from overwhelming the parking lot and irritating the neighbors. The equipment was then taken out to the Lazy Days Field Day site near West Bend, WI, where the Club has held Field Day for over 25 years.

Friday afternoon was hot, but tents were put up, antennas and generators were readied, and several members had set up their personal camp setups. Jane, KB9SYI, Rosie, KB9PZK, Julia, KB9TDB, and others readied the famous Friday night feed for the tired workers and families in the large wall tent. This cook tent is always a focal point to the entire Field Day effort. Jeff, KB9QQE satisfied the beer drinkers with his homebrew products, and Stan, WB9RQR re-affirmed his mastery of the Weber grill with three delicious turkeys.

The 146.97 MHz club repeater has always been difficult to reach from the campground. The receive link was brought out to the grounds, and everyone was able to reach the repeater, even on low power with a hand-held radio. This made autopatches easier for those who needed to contact home.

That evening, the temperature cooled off, under a nearly full moon, groups formed around the operating tents, radios chirped and beeped. A small campfire was enjoyed with marshmallows roasting at one encampment, and in the cook tent several people enjoyed conversation. The bottle of Southern Comfort was missing this year however, as was the poppy seed birthday cake that used



to fete one of us years ago. The traditional Sheephead games elicited comments of Schneider, Maurer, and doublers, leasters, and game. Who counted the shiny nickels and dimes flipping across the table (or on the ground)? We missed Hal and Bob this year, who couldn't make it, along with some others who never can return. Names of Joe, Dick, Travis, Rich, Ed and Wes come to mind.

After a while, the generators went quiet, and peace under the full moon belied what was to come on Saturday.

On Saturday morning, those who stayed over night began to stir. Some decided to go to the annual Breakfast on the Farm, a few miles down the road. Stan, WB9RQR, and Jim, K9QLP, brought out the bagels and cream cheese, some with a bit of salmon in it, to go with the coffee. John, KB9PZL, picked up some sweet rolls and bakery. Some of the late revelers from the night before straggled out to this to start their day.

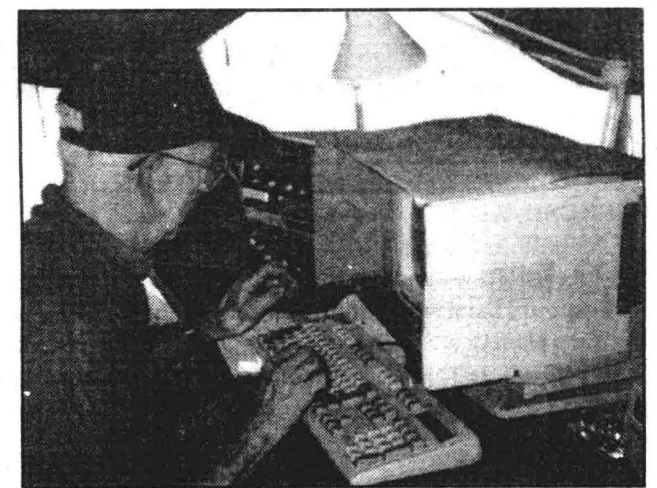
Field Day started officially at 1:00 p.m. Saturday, with great enthusiasm. The Club was running 4A again this year, with the call W9LO. The CW computers were ticking away. The sideband tents were racking up contact after contact. For the first time in several years, bands like six and ten meters were open. N9UUR's satellite tracking system was scanning the skies.

This year, a schedule of operators was set up, and those who had volunteered were stepping up for their tours at the radios. Contacts and dupes were checked. The generators weren't to be quiet this night. The soft glow of lamps came from the cook tent and operating tents as the sky, shadowed by cooling clouds, darkened into night. There was no full moon this night. The cook tent was nearly empty now, with only an occasional visitor looking for a snack.

As the hour grew later, the partytime was over. This was the contest now. As some bands shut down, others were picking up. The alert operator had to choose the best way to continue racking up those precious points. An occasional sprinkle put a damper on those necessary walks through the night, with shoes and socks dampened from the tall grass. The rains and stormy weather stayed away this time, however.

Dawn's early light had to filter through a ground fog that laid a hush over the area. Jane and Julia, along with others, set out to prepare breakfast for the operators. There was an optimistic feeling in the topics of conversation. The various stations all were operating smoothly. All were racking up good point totals. The generators all droned on seemingly with little effort, with their care tended for by John, KB9PZL, and Terry, KA9RFM, providing energy to contact the world. Log sheets were filling up rapidly in all the tents. Even the Elmer station in the cooktent was enjoying good activity.

The sun was burning through the haze, and the temperature was on the rise once again. Cool soda and cool water replaced the beer that had flowed so freely on Friday night. Many of the Club's newer members were there to help out. Some tried their hand at operating for the first time. All quickly learned the techniques to make



Ace CW operator Bob Truscott, W9LO, operates and logs on 20 CW.

Continued on page 5



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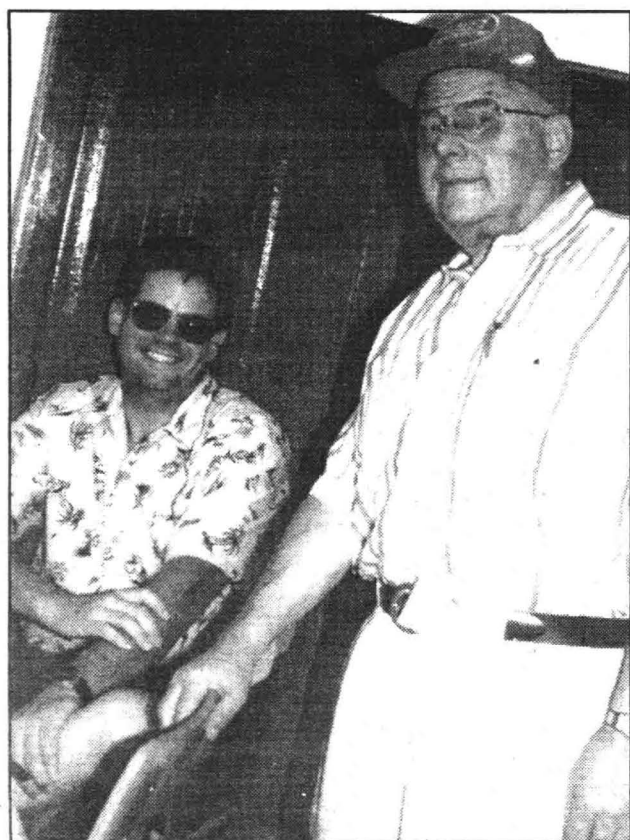
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"Hang on, Jim"



Tom Kucharski, KA9EWJ, and Bob Goldstein, K9KJT, take a break to "make pretty" for the camera during the 1999 run of the Great Circus Train.

Radio amateurs from AREC, Inc., were on board the Great Circus Train July 2 - 5, 1999, providing communications for personnel and media on board. The crew leader was genial Bob Goldstein, K9KJT, who headed the rest of the troops: Jack McLeland, W9ATK; Tom Kucharski, KA9EWJ; and chase van driver Ron Armstrong, WB9WRW, whose words head this story.

CWM PR Director Keri Olson had some specific needs for the trip, especially because it was the first time the train has traversed such a long route, over 350 miles in four days, and into places it had never been, including Waukesha, Oshkosh, Appleton, Green Bay, and Germantown. The journey was on Wisconsin Southern and Wisconsin Central lines. The trip is made possible by Strong Funds.

Keri needed to be reachable at all times, a need identified in the spring in conversations with Jim Romelfanger, K9ZZ, Baraboo. Bob, K9KJT, found a fine way to meet that need: A pair of the new 462 MHz FM handie talkies.

Three different services were used: cell telephone, Amateur Radio, and the "Family Radio Service" (462 MHz). As far as is known, Keri's needs were met 100%.

Steve Polishinski, WB9YSD, spelled one of the operators from Waukesha to Oshkosh, which is his home town. In the meantime, Jim, K9ZZ, rode in the chase van, driven by Ron, WB9WRW. Hence that headline. When he said it, he meant it! K9ZZ had the obligatory shoulder strap affixed, but soon learned that wasn't quite enough. Hanging onto the strap manually with at least

Silent Keys

John Glaeser, WB9ESM, Manitowoc, passed away Thursday, July 1, following a lengthy period of medical problems.

He had served as president of Mancorad at one time. He also helped to get the first two meter repeater going in Manitowoc. He served on the board for the Paralyzed Veterans Association along with various other committees for disabled veterans, not only in Manitowoc County, but all over the United States. Services were Tuesday, July 6.

He is survived by one son, Kenneth in Boston and two daughters and one son-in-law, Janine Glaeser, Milwaukee, and Sheri and Mathew Alexander, Japan.

Harold J. V. Anderson, W9MER, Advanced Class, born on April 20, 1920, passed away July 5, 1999 at the age of 79 years old. Andy lived in Sussex, Waukesha County, was former owner of Anderson Furnace Company and retired from Briggs & Stratton.

Milwaukee Journal Sentinel,
Sunday, July 11, 1999
via Rich Regent, K9GDF

Baraboo Bob's Big, Beautiful and Bountiful Birthday Bash



Bob King, W9QOQ, Baraboo, recently celebrated his 80th birthday at a celebration hosted by Tim King (one of Bob's two sons) and his wife, near Reedsburg. The local and area ham radio fraternity turned out in big numbers - and lots of "ordinary" folks, too - to honor one of Baraboo's finest. In the photo, front row, left to right are: Larry Moe, K0SIA; Sid Vaughn, N0DJD*; Fred Becker,

W9KKM*; Don Evenson, K9JYX, and Al Johnson, AA7CS. Back row: Arnie Sewell, N9TSO; Cindy Sewell, N9UUL; Art Kleefisch, W9WSS; George Halper, W9SUF; Bill Dunbar, AD9E*; Gale Roberts, WB9RWW*; and the honoree himself, Bob King, W9QOQ*. The "*" indicates a landline telegrapher.

Photo by Carol Ann, daughter of W9SUF

one hand provided additional stability.

WB9YSD left the train at Oshkosh, and was met by his wife Barb, N9DIJ, two sons, and his sister and his mom and dad. "Junior", Steve's dad, always has a joke to "fire from the hip", and after about 17 years, he is still in fine form. K9ZZ reboarded at Oshkosh to continue the journey on Day Two to Appleton.

Riding with WB9WRW was an adventure, to say the least, but it proved educational as well. The Automatic Packet Reporting System was on the train with a GPS receiver. Ron's van was equipped with GPS as well. With both on screen on his laptop computer, Ron could easily see where both were, and he met the train at every crossing, not just the main crossings. He could also determine whether or not the train was moving or stopped by the icon displayed on the screen. The value of APRS was never more clearly illustrated. Ron's patience was well-illustrated as well, answering stupid APRS questions from K9ZZ.

The ride was a long one, but the operators handled the work in fine shape. These are dedicated, hard-working, and very resourceful people. They are seasoned, and I have never seen them lose their "cool". It's a good group to know and to work with.

We'll have more next month.

And Bob would make a fine tour guide.

- K9ZZ

Ozaukee Radio Club Field Day report

Continued from page 4

contacts, and got caught up in the mystique of Field Day.

At 1:00 p.m. Sunday, horns blew, signifying 'time'. All stations were shut down, and the equipment was stowed. Trailers and trucks were loaded with tents, poles, coolers lights and electric cords. The big, heavy cook tent was folded up and tied, ready for its journey back to the barn. This is always a massive undertaking, with as many hands as possible folding, rolling and tying this old friend. Taking down the cook tent always seems to signify the official end to Field Day. Returning the equipment to the barn caps the effort. After securing the barn, the helpers, all exhausted from the heat and humidity, went their own way home.

Field Day 1999 was all over except for the score tallies and paperwork. Preliminary tallies appear to show over 2500 contacts! This may have been the best score the Club has ever achieved! Hopefully, the Ozaukee Radio Club will fare well in the national tallies.

I can't help but believe the spirits of Joe, Dick, Travis, Rich, Ed, Wes, and others were there helping us have a great weekend. □

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AUGUST 1999

The Computer Corner

By Stan Kaplan, WB9RQR • 105 Martin Drive
Port Washington, WI 53074-9654
(414) 284-9346
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SKAPLAN @ MCW.EDU



No. 69: How Much Computer Do You Need?

Boy, that is a tough question. But it is an important one, because it can easily mean a waste of money, as much as \$1,000 or even more! Why not be prudent and apply those precious dollars toward a new rig, or some peripherals for the hamshack? So what do you really need for computing power? Dave Barrow, N9UNR, who suggested this article, keeps reminding me of what he tells his customers. You may need considerably less than you think.

Prices are dropping consistently in the computer world, probably owing to the supply being greater than the demand. Nevertheless, it is very tempting to put out the bucks for that 450 MHz demon, with 256 Mb of RAM, a new printer, CD-ROM drive that can write as well as read, megablaster sound system, and so on. Nice frills, indeed, and I am just as susceptible as you are to drooling over them. But we need to be realistic and organized and analytical when buying a computer, especially BEFORE we go shopping! So, here are some features and what they mean to you.

CPU (Central Processing Unit, the Motlier Of All Chips on your motherboard): If you do just word processing, a few ham programs and some web browsing, you don't even need a Pentium. A 486 rated at 66 or 100 MHz will do your work just fine. On the other hand, at this point in history, the 486 has become an antique! Prices for Pentiums are so low that it does not pay to look for a new 486, even if you can find one to purchase. If you have a reputable source, a used 66 or 100 MHz 486 should run around \$200, complete. If your needs are as outlined above and you want a brand-new machine, look for a Pentium 166 MHz with MMX (advanced graphics) capabilities. Even better would be a 233 MHz MMX Pentium. I have one of each in my office, and can tell the difference in speed when handling and manipulating large graphics files, though both do a fine job. Actually, the Pentium 166 is my main machine and I use the 233 MHz computer for secondary jobs and backup. You need not stick with Intel chips (Intel makes all the Pentium CPUs). An AMD K6 processor, rated for MMX and comparable in speed to those I mentioned above, will generally outperform the same class of Pentium chip and cost around 25% less. Cyrix also makes a fine family of CPU chips. There is really no such thing as a badly designed CPU on the market today insofar as I am aware, though you should know that the WinChip (C6 chip, made by IDT) is at the low end of both cost and performance.

MEMORY: Don't even think of getting a new computer with less than 64 Mbytes of RAM. Adequate memory can make the difference between a slow "honker" and a speed demon. Although Win95 or Win98 will work with much less, you may well be frustrated if you opt for less than this minimum. At less than \$100 for 64 MB, memory

is truly cheap. Go to 96 MB if you can, or splurge with 128 MB. The cost/benefit ratio goes down rapidly after 128 MB unless you routinely edit huge graphic files. If a favorite pastime is editing pictures of your grandchildren, then consider the limit your machine can handle.

MODEM: Forget anything slower than a 56-kb modem. If you want the most trouble-free unit available with probably among the best customer support hierarchies, go with US Robotics (3-Com).

MONITOR: Sure, you can get along with that old 14-inch monitor. It is still working fine, right? Don't! Get a 17-inch, 19-inch or even 21-inch monitor. When purchased as part of a package, they are less costly, and the larger screen will really make a difference. I am editing this article with a 20-inch (11½ high X 15¼ inch wide actual viewing area) Hewlett-Packard (made by Sony) that I just purchased used for under \$300. What a pleasure!

Other Bells and Whistles: Be sure to get a 3½ inch floppy drive, but don't bother with a 5¼-inch drive unless you have a lot of the big floppies lying around. Even then, you can probably use your old machine, or a friend's, to convert them. The 5¼-inch floppy is an antique. Get a CD-ROM drive, of course, and consider an IDE CD ReWritable drive. Available separately now in the \$200 - \$350 range (August 1999), these will allow you to write backups to a CD-ROM disk, which you can erase and writeover later when the backup is out of date. These devices read regular CD-ROMs at over 20X speed, but write at a much slower rate (2X-4X). Nevertheless, you can do a backup overnight quite conveniently. I do believe the tape drive for home PC backups is on its way out at this point. At least a 6 Gbyte hard drive is pretty much standard at this point, which is fine.

Operating System: We are all pretty much stuck with Windows 95 or 98 at this time in the history of computing. Which one to opt for? It is said that Win98 cured 500 problems found in Win95, and created 1,500 new ones. I would say opt for Win98 if you have a choice, but be sure they give you a CD-ROM with the machine, so you can re-install the operating system when you need to. And be sure to plan on purchasing and installing a copy of Norton Utilities for Win95/98. This is an absolute necessity and is well worth the grief that it will save you. It is the most important software package you can buy outside of what comes pre-installed in the machine. The box should be on your desk when the new computer arrives, and you should install it within a day or two! No, it won't spoil like an unrefrigerated fish, but you need its protection right away.

Brand: Dell and Gateway are currently the leaders in quality and customer satisfaction, but there are a number of other hardware houses out there that offer good stuff. Avoid Packard-Bell. Their quality has been low and customer satisfaction at the bottom of the heap for a number of years now. Ask anyone who repairs computers if you don't believe me.

Beyond what I have suggested in this short article, you need to read computer magazines. Want to know which printers are the best? Hewlett-Packard, of course, but you can get others that give a big bang for the buck and rival the HP quality of print. Read. Read. Read. Don't forget to consult Consumer Reports, a good, unbiased source of information. Agonize over your decisions. Then go ahead and take the step, well informed. Don't be upset though, when you read in 3 months that your brand new computer is already outdated. The field is moving so fast that you can depend on that happening. Remember, if it does what you want in a timely fashion, you have gotten your money's worth. Happy computing! □

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KETTLE MORaine RADIO AMATEURS

25th Field Day a big success for Kettle Moraine club

The Kettle Moraine Radio Amateurs club was originally founded in 1974 as a group interested in a cooperative venture for Field Day. Following that successful event a more formal club was organized, with monthly meetings, a monthly newsletter, a swap fest and several annual social events for members. At one time, the membership was well over one hundred southeastern Wisconsin amateurs. Twenty five years later, the club has come full circle with its only function as organized participation in operating events such as Field Day and the Wisconsin QSO Party.

This year, about 20 members gathered at Hillcrest Park in Waukesha for the annual rites. They operated under the call of member Ken Secora, N9KS, in category 4A. A Novice/Tech station was also operated under the call of member Gary Wheatley, WA5QGR.

A system that has worked well for the group over the years is to have each individual station organized and operated by a member who then arranges for his own shelter, equipment, antennas, operators, etc. Some stations turn out to be three to five man efforts, while others are just one. Generator power is shared, however, as are some of the meals. Members also help each other

when it's time for such activities as tower raisings when lots of extra hands are needed. Some members who aren't particularly interested in operating show up to help as needed with set up or in manning the barbeque grill. While this method isn't quite as organized as the typical chairman / station manager hierarchy, it works well for this group.

Choosing which stations operate on what bands hasn't been a real problem for the group. The club seems to have a good cross section of amateurs who have different band and operating mode interests, so it just falls into place. This year, one station operated 40 and 15 meter phone while another covered 80, 20, and 10 meter SSB. Two CW stations were similarly divided, plus a VHF station operated 6 and 2 meters.

With the specialization has come efficiency. Each station sets up and tears down quickly as each operator is usually bringing his own gear that he's used for years. Murphy usually only shows up with the shared equipment, and sure enough it happened again this year. The club rotor mysteriously had a blown fuse and one of the generators died three minutes into the contest. The latter problem was solved when quickly summoned diesel mechanic Gary, KA5QGR, pronounced the fuel tank empty!

Historically, the Kettle Moraine group has scored quite high in the final results and hopefully this year will be no exception. They reported band conditions were quite good in comparison to other years. They're anxiously awaiting contest results to be published in QST later this year. □

WHATEVER IT TAKES!

W6AQ: Front Lawn Field Day

I belong to the So. Cal. DX Club, the So. Cal. Contest Club and the Western States Weak Signal Society, and NONE of those distinguished organizations had a Field Day operation, nor have they had for years as far as I know. So I had my own. If a principal reason for FD is to demonstrate emergency capabilities to the public, why not operate from the front yard? That's what I did, using my FT-847, 4 watts solar powered, and my home antennas. Over a dozen neighbors stopped by to chat, took away my QSL card, the ARRL's "Backgrounder: What is Amateur Radio?" and learned a bit about my emergency capabilities.

There will be a piece about the front yard operation, complete with a picture, in the local homeowners' newsletter, perhaps the *Hollywood Independent* (a major 'free' paper in the area) and I'm writing an article for *Worldradio* (I know, preaching to the choir, but my operation turned out to be good, if very local and small scale, PR). And in case you're wondering, I only got one comment about interference -- to a home alarm system owner -- and I told him to do what I do with mine -- turn it off. "Good idea," he said, and that was that.

With "the big one" (earthquake that is) not far from anyone's consciousness out here, and realizing that I'd be able to communicate with SOMEONE no matter what, took the edge off any complaining about interference, antennas, or anything else. And, oh, yes, one kid showed up who's interested in ham radio. And he lives right across the street.

73, Dave, W6AQ

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The Automatic Packet Reporting System

By Tom Weeden, WJ9H

PART 6 - MANUAL INPUT FOR PLOTS

Not everyone starting out with APRS wants to dive fully in, adding GPS receivers or weather stations or direction-finding equipment. This month we'll talk about using the various APRS functions which use manual data input.

Last time I mentioned automatic plotting of weather data from a home weather station. Let's simplify this a bit and say you own a regular thermometer mounted outside a window and a no-frills rain gauge. A storm has just blown through and you'd like to report your rain amount to the APRS station at the National Weather Service.

With APRS running, press W (Weather), E (Enter data). Notice these are single keystrokes. You don't have to press the <ENTER> key after each. At the bottom of the screen you will be prompted to enter a wind direction. If you know what it is, or can estimate it, enter the direction in degrees (for example, wind from the west would be 270). You can leave any entry blank if you don't have the data available. Next is a prompt for wind speed and another for peak wind gust. The next entries are for temperature and dew point (again, if you know them). Then you'll see a prompt for rain amount in hundredths of an inch. If you had an inch and a half of rain, you would enter 150. You could also enter a snowfall amount at this prompt by adding "S" after the number. You'll be asked for a pressure reading in tenths of millibars (some barometers have a millibar scale). For example, 29.90" converts to 1012 mb, so enter 10120. The last entry is for comments, where you can enter a short line of text such as "Rainfall between 7:30 and 7:55 PM."

When you have finished entering your weather data, APRS will format a packet for transmission. It will transmit it immediately, then begin lengthening the interval between subsequent transmissions. One of the fundamental principles of APRS is that new information is more valuable than old information. Eventually your weather data will become "old" and you will want to either update it or manually delete the data by entering a different kind of packet, which I'll discuss later.

Your weather packet is now being broadcast to your local APRS network, and you are also receiving weather packets from other weather stations, both manual and automatic. You have several options for displaying weather stations, discussed two months ago. To summarize briefly, press J (Just) W (Weather) to see just weather stations. Then press W (Weather) C (Callsigns) to see a list of options.

APRS can sound/display an alarm if limits of weather data are exceeded from any station. Press W (Weather) A (Alarms) to see a list of limits. You can choose to set an alarm condition if a temperature is exceeded, either high or low, if a wind speed is exceeded, or if a rain amount is exceeded.

Another APRS weather function is to display a wind streamline. Press W (Weather) D (Display) W (Wind Flow), and APRS will interpolate a 21 x 13 grid of wind directions and speeds based on observations received. This function isn't too practical unless you had a significant number of stations reporting to make interpolation more accurate. With a sizable reporting network, you could use this function to see the wind shifts associated with the passing of a front.

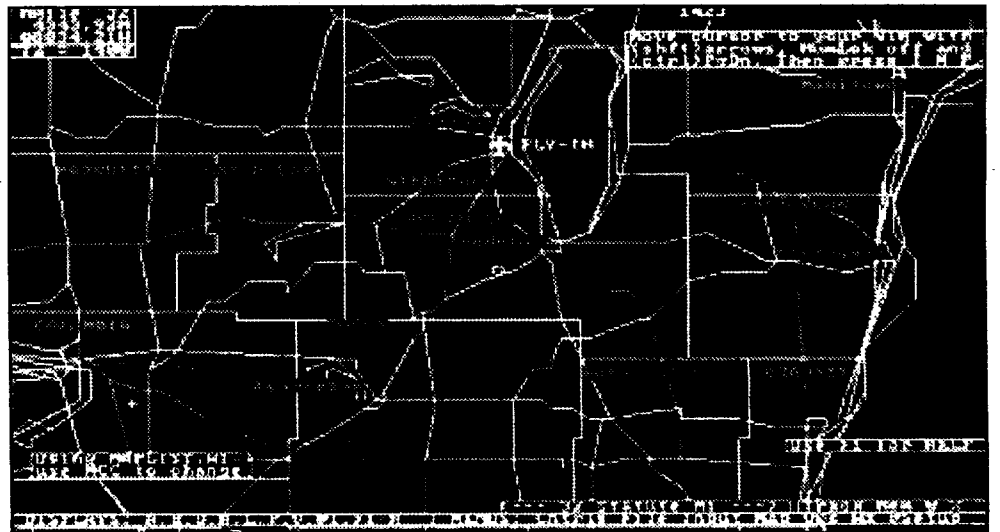
Two other weather functions, beyond the scope of this article, include the capability of plotting a tornado/severe thunderstorm watch box and the ability to fill a county with color to indicate a weather warning. For more information on these, consult the F1-F help files under WX.TXT.

Now, let's move beyond weather. There are several other data parameters you can transmit, including the location of objects and other information about your station. The routines for data entry are similar and they all begin with the keystroke I (Input). In issue #2, we talked about inputting your latitude and longitude so that your station would plot on a map. This is done by pressing I (Input) M (My Data) P (Position). Generic station information is entered through I, M, S (Status). An estimate of your station's simplex coverage can be made by pressing I (Input) P (Power-Height-Gain). Follow the prompts, being careful to estimate your height above average terrain properly, and APRS will draw a circle around your station plot and also make that information available to other stations monitoring.

You can plot objects on your map and they will display on other stations' APRS maps as well. Say you wanted to make others aware of the location of the annual Oshkosh

Fly-In. With the map displayed, zoom in on the Oshkosh area and place the cursor over the desired site. Then press I (Input) A (Add Object). You'll be prompted for latitude, but there will be a default entry for your cursor location. Press <ENTER> to accept the default. Do the same with longitude. Now you're asked for an object name or callsign.

You could enter "FLY-IN" and press <ENTER>. Next is a list of available symbols to plot. Press the first letter of the symbol. In this case, enter "A" and a new list of icons beginning with "A" appears. Press "2" for "Airplane." The next prompt is for course and speed. Enter numbers here for moving objects or zero for stationary objects. You can then enter comments text if desired. Finally, you'll need to enter a date and time stamp. This information is needed if the object is moving and other stations wish to "dead-reckon" its future position based on course and speed. Fortunately, a default entry is presented which is current time. Press <ENTER> to accept the time. Then you have a prompt asking if all your information is accurate. Press "Y" to accept it, or "N" to start over if you made a mistake. APRS will now plot the symbol on your map and transmit a packet so it will plot on other users' maps.



You can experiment with the "dead-reckoning" function to estimate future positions by pressing C (Controls) D (Dead-Reckoning). To see if you have it enabled, press the TAB key. A small status window will display at the bottom of the screen. On the bottom line you'll see either "DR" which means it is enabled or "dr" which means disabled. If you add a moving object to the screen, APRS will assume that its course and speed are constant, and when you press the space bar to redraw the map, APRS will update its estimate of the object's current position. I've used this in SKYWARN applications, plotting information from NOAA weather radio, such as "At 2:55, National Weather Service doppler radar indicated a severe thunderstorm over Baraboo, moving northeast at 35 miles per hour." Try it.

A side note: remember, you don't need to have a packet station on the air to experiment with the APRS software. In fact, while you're learning the various functions, being off the air helps to keep the frequency clear of your "experiments!" Once at an Emergency Government demonstration, I showed someone how I could plot an ambulance travelling westbound on I-94 toward Madison at 75 mph. I forgot that I actually sent this position packet over the air. When I got home later that day and looked at my home display, the ambulance icon was over Nebraska, still heading west!

Next month we'll discuss using APRS for direction-finding, using the data entry techniques learned this time. There are three different methods APRS uses for DF-ing, and two of them can use data from stations using non-directional antennas! How can that be? Stay tuned.

A summary of APRS links to download software, in case you missed them earlier:

Latest APRS DOS version - <ftp://tapr.org/aprssi/dosstuff/APRSDos/aprs8xx.zip>

Extra maps for Wisconsin - <ftp://tapr.org/aprssi/maps/PCMaps/WIMAPS03.ZIP>

(Use PKUNZIP.EXE -d to unzip both files.)

APRS for Windows - <ftp://msproul.rutgers.edu/pub/hamradio/APRS/WinAPRS>

MacAPRS - <ftp://msproul.rutgers.edu/pub/hamradio/APRS/MacAPRS>

(Remember that this APRS series highlights the DOS version. Windows/Mac versions have different features!)

See you on 144.39!

CQ Editor Alan M. Dorhoffer, K2EEK, SK

CQ Editor Alan M. Dorhoffer, K2EEK, died July 19 from complications of cancer surgery. He was 61. Dorhoffer, who'd served as editor of CQ for nearly a quarter-century, had spent his entire professional life at the magazine. He started as an assistant editor in 1964 and became the magazine's tenth editor in 1976. He'd been a co-owner of the magazine since 1979.

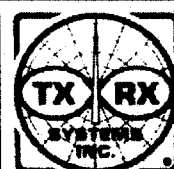
A ham since his teenage years, Dorhoffer, who lived in Port Washington, New York, concentrated his activity on his favorite band, 10 meters. At CQ, he tried to focus on the "people" aspects of Amateur Radio. "Ham radio is people interacting with other people," he wrote in the magazine's 50th anniversary issue, and on the things people do with Amateur Radio.

CQ Publisher Dick Ross, K2MGA, said Dorhoffer had been like a brother to him for more than 42 years. "We'd butt heads from time to time on editorial matters, but that in no way diminished our mutual love and respect," Ross said. "He was always there for everybody."

ARRL Executive Vice President David Sumner, K1ZZ, was among those saddened to learn of Dorhoffer's passing. "He was a respected colleague and well known to all of us who travel the convention and hamfest circuit, he said. "It's difficult to picture the circuit without him."

Dorhoffer's illness had been only recently diagnosed.

-- Thanks to CQ Communications
ARRL Bulletin ARLX005, 7/19/99



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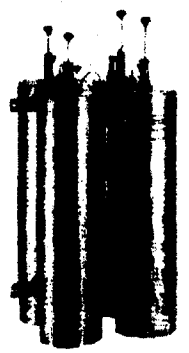
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Welcome New Section Manager

By Richard Regent, K9GDF

Wisconsin's new Section Manager is Donald E. Michalski, W9IXG, appointed to take over the remainder of Roy's term until July, 2000. After that, Don will need to go through the election process for a regular two-year appointment. Roy Pedersen, K9FHI, handed the SM baton, woff hong and clipboard over to Don after working three more years as SM (previously serving a span from 1973 to 1984). Thanks, Roy, for your SM achievements.

The Wisconsin American Radio Relay League Section Manager is the overall leader of ARRL Field Organization activities in our state, the focus for the League's service to the public and to radio amateurs. A major duty is to recruit and appoint eight Section-level leadership assistants. Then to supervise the administration of the programs like: emergency communications, message traffic, official observer and Amateur Auxiliary, affiliated clubs, public information and public relations, state government liaison, technical activities, and on-the-air bulletins. A Section Manager also visits clubs, hamfests and conventions to give talks and answer questions.

Don, at age 58, was first licensed in 1957 as KN9-RDN while residing in Indiana. He now lives in Madison



and is licensed as Advanced W9IXG, but is working on the Extra Class. "Only thing preventing me from getting it is finding time to study and work on more CW! Too much ham on the plate and it doesn't look like I'm getting any reprieve! I'm this close!" Don chides as he gives a smile, "I do mostly SSB but am getting back into the CW groove." On a good day Don can copy 18 wpm.

Don is on E-mail but doesn't have a web page, yet. "Don't play a musical instrument, but do enjoy listening to jazz and classical music. I've been married to Ann for 31 years and we have a daughter, Lisa, who is a teacher," he notes.

W9IXG has been an ARRL member since about 1963, Secretary and Treasurer of the University of Wisconsin Bowling League since 1967, Official Observer since 1991, and Membership Chair for the Bombay Bicycling Club for many years. He is Secretary for the Badger Amateur Radio Society - W9YT and member of both Four Lakes Amateur Radio Club and Madison Area Repeater Association.

What are Don's goals as new Section Manager? "To expand what I've been doing in Madison: get hams involved in community activities, generate new hams through regular classes and encourage hams to work and communicate together to showcase our hobby in the public's eye."

Mr. Michalski has a Bachelor of Science degree in Electrical Engineering from Purdue. He is a semi-retired Electrical Engineer and Associate Director of the University of Wisconsin Space Astronomy Laboratory in Madison, where he designed telescopes and instruments since 1966. Don still works half-time designing electronics for NASA programs. He is President of the Space Place Amateur Radio Center (SPARC) - N9UW. Space Place is an outreach center of the Astronomy Department.

Don enjoys working with people. "Consider myself one that looks at life as an opportunity to make a positive impact on the future. I try to keep folks inspired and looking forward, thinking positive. I set a fast pace and hope the everyone will enjoy working with me. I look forward to receiving news for the monthly QST column, so please E-mail or contact me with events of interest."

Finally, Don recalls a memorable event: "When I was getting started in ham radio in the 1950s, I had the fortune to be a good friend of Herb Brier, W9EGQ. He became my mentor, an inspiration to me and hundreds of hams in northern Indiana. Because of his disease, Herb was confined to bed. But, that didn't stop him from being an active ham and educator. Herb wrote monthly articles for *Popular Electronics* and was active in the Indiana phone and CW nets. When W9EGQ made it out to a ham event, the whole community was buzzing because The Man was making a special trip in an ambulance. You were lucky to get close to his portable bed and say, "Hi!" I still recall those days. It was no surprise that the ARRL has a yearly award dedicated to him."

Don continues, "So now that I have more time to devote to the hobby, I hope to follow Herb's footsteps and do what I can to help other hams in Wisconsin. This is a hobby that has been good to me for all my life."

Our new Section Manager, W9IXG, needs your congratulations, help and suggestions. He can be reached at dem@sal.wisc.edu or w9ixg@arrrl.org, by phone 608-274-1886, mail at 4214 Mohawk Dr., Madison, WI 53711-3723, or at hamfests and club meetings, and of course on the air. □

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Needle SWR/Wattmeter, massive transmitting variable capacitors, ceramic antenna switch, built-in dummy load, TrueCurrent™ Balun, scratch-proof Lexan front panel -- all in a sleek compact cabinet (10 1/2" W x 4 1/2" H x 15 D in.).

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MFJ-986 \$329

MFJ-962D compact Tuner for Amps

A few more dollars steps you up to a KW tuner for an amp later. Handles 1.5 KW PEP SSB amplifier input power (800W output). Ideal for Amciron's AL-811H! AirCore™ roller inductor, gear-driven turns counter, pk/avg lighted Cross-Needle SWR/Wattmeter, antenna switch, balun, Lexan front panel. 1.8-30MHz. 10 1/2" W x 4 1/2" H x 10 1/2" D in.

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More hams use MFJ-949E than any other antenna tuner in the world! Handles 300 Watts. Full 1.8 to 30 MHz coverage, 48 position Precision48™ inductor, 1000 Volt tuning capacitors, full-size peak/average lighted Cross-Needle SWR/Wattmeter, 8 position antenna switch, dummy load, QRM-Free PreTune™, scratch proof Lexan front panel. 3 1/2" H x 10 1/2" W x 7 D in.

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MFJ-945E HF+6 Meter mobile Tuner

Extends your mobile antenna bandwidth so you don't have to stop, go outside and adjust your antenna. Tiny 8x2x6 in. Lighted Cross-Needle SWR/Wattmeter. Lamp and bypass switches. Covers 1.8-30 MHz and 6 Meters. 300 Watts PEP. MFJ-20, \$4.95, mobile mount.

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Tunes coax, balanced lines, random wire 1.8-30 MHz. Cross-Needle Meter. SWR, 30/300 or 6 Watt QRP ranges. Matches popular MFJ transceivers. Tiny 6x6 1/2" x 2 1/2" inches.

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Ultra tiny 4x2 1/2" x 1 1/2" inch tuner covers VHF 136-175 MHz and UHF 420-460 MHz. SWR/Wattmeter reads 60/150 Watts.

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FCC fines Florida man \$20,000

The FCC has levied a \$20,000 fine on a Florida man for violations stemming from alleged unlicensed operation on Amateur Radio frequencies. William Flippo of Jupiter is accused of willful operation of an unlicensed radio station on 28.375

MHz, willful and malicious interference with ongoing Amateur Radio communications, and with failing to let FCC representatives inspect his radio equipment. All of the alleged violations are said to have occurred June 8, 1999.

The FCC's Compliance and Information Bureau has been investigating complaints from hams in the Jupiter area for nearly two years. After experiencing intentional interference on 10 and 2 meters, local hams provided the Commission with audio tapes and the results of close-in monitoring and direction finding.

Subsequently, an FCC agent used direction-finding techniques to determine that intentional interference to amateur traffic "was occurring and that the intentional interference was being transmitted from the residence of William Flippo." The FCC agent, accompanied by a local sheriff's deputy, attempted to inspect the radio equipment at Flippo's residence on June 8, but Flippo reportedly refused to allow the inspection.

Flippo has 30 days to respond to the FCC Notice, sent July 12 by FCC Tampa District Director Ralph M. Barlow.

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Have you considered becoming an ARRL Volunteer Examiner?



If you are 18 or older, and are presently a General, Advanced, or Extra class licensee, the ARRL/VEC would be glad to hear from you. Feel free to contact the ARRL/VEC at (800) 927-7583 and request our Prospective VE Packet. Very 73 to all my friends in Wisconsin!

Bart Jahnke, W9JJ/1

From the editor..

A few random thoughts are presented here for your possible edification.

- Quite a few years ago, I was driving to Madison, and was listening to the then-primary Madison repeater, 146.76.

At the time, I was working for WBOO, 740 AM, Baraboo. Among the duties I had was to air a tape from Social Security. It was a program to educate beneficiaries and the general populace about Social Security, and a different topic was chosen for each program.

That's the leadin. As I chugged down Highway 12, I heard a voice which was very familiar. You guessed it, it was the same guy who recorded those programs for Social Security, Tony Cascio, then WB9PVH. (Sorry to blow your cover, Tony!) So, I called him and we had a nice chat as I headed on into the Big City by the Four Lakes. I told him that I recognized his voice, as I worked at WBOO, one of the stations which ran that program.

In two weeks or so, the usual tape arrived at Boo, and I aired it at the Appointed Time. I did not usually pay a lot of attention to all that stuff, but this program got my attention right way. "Hi, I'm Tony Cascio with your Social Security QSO program." Did I hear that right? I did. Part way through the program came, "Fine business." By now, I realized what he had done, but I am very certain that the listeners were more than a bit puzzled by that and other ham radio comments which, though brief, followed. The audience probably was even more curious when he did the usual sign-off with an addition: "Thanks for listening and 73."

Well, gee. A "sort of" QSO. I stuck my QSL card in the big box with the tape to be returned to him in Madison. The next tape arrival brought his QSL card. I don't remember all of what Tony wrote, but I do remember his listing his receiver as "Mickey Mouse ears". And they say that *kids* say and do the darndest things. Hey, we adults do, too. We just do them and say them differently.

- BSSS has started its trek to the World Wide Web. One of the editorial board members has taken a story, created a "flag", a site index, and a whole lot more, all to demonstrate how this newspaper can look in electronic format.

When news breaks fast, we will have it posted quickly. All the usual Test Point and Swapfest and Other Social Events and other columns will be there. But it will be a long time before the electronic version will be even close to coming on line.

There are pluses and minuses to being on the Web. The biggest plus is that on the Web BSSS will be available to anyone else in the world who cares to read it.

To the photographers, writers, and cartoonists who now contribute regularly to BSSS (or even irregularly), please keep the info coming. Your readership will get even bigger.

There are logistics yet to deal with, including setting up a domain and determining initial web ad rates. We're just starting to look at all of that now.

Ads are what pay the bills. We certainly hope that *all* of our current advertisers will stay on board.

The cost of printing and mailing this version has gone out of sight. Printing is now excessively expensive due in part to four clubs having left BSSS, thinking that the expense was causing those clubs to lose members, a theory that is not valid. The truth is that the hobby in general is in a downturn. It just now is showing signs of recovery, as evidenced by a sight rise in ARRL membership.

But, that makes the cost per printed copy higher. And we do not have ads enough to cover that higher cost. We also have a sizeable debt owed to the printer.

But for several years, at least, we'll plod along with this paper version anyway. We may reduce the page count to 12. But, the content, including amount of content, will remain about the same. We'll drop the type size a little and tighten the line spacing.

We've been fortunate to have so many good writers and photographers and cartoonists share their work with all of us in BSSS. It is the hope of the editorial board that they'll keep it up. There's a lot of good writing and photographic talent out there. It is they who have made BSSS what it is today. Keep it coming, folks!

We have been producing this paper in this tab format for about 16 years. Not a bad run, I'd say. And it has actually been published since 1969. One editor. Me.

Ken Ebnetter, K9EN, does all the labeling, maintains

ARRL Board Adopts New League Identity



The ARRL Board of Directors unanimously has approved the use of a new identity for the League. Meeting July 16-17 in Rocky Hill, Connecticut, the Board accepted the recommendation of the ARRL Executive Committee to emphasize the initials "ARRL" in conjunction with the tag line "The national association for Amateur Radio." The new identity -- which is not a legal name change -- will appear on League correspondence and publications. The traditional -- and legal -- name will be retained but de-emphasized. Further discussion of any possible new name for the League has been deferred until the Board's January 2000 meeting.

The ARRL Board also approved a proposal to hold a Hiram Percy Maxim 130-year anniversary on-the-air event September 2-11, 1999.

In other matters, the Board unanimously authorized a mail vote of full members in the proposed new West Central Florida Section, which includes nine counties that now are part of the Southern Florida Section. A group calling itself the West Central Florida Section Committee filed a petition with the League earlier this year to create a third section in the Sunshine State. Ballots will go out within a few weeks to ARRL members in Charlotte, DeSoto, Hardee, Highlands, Hillsborough, Manatee, Pinellas, Polk and Sarasota counties. Results of the balloting will be reported to the Board on a county-by-county basis. If a simple majority of eligible members voting approves the change, the Board will review the entire petition file and vote to approve or disapprove the requested change. That decision is final. There now are 70 ARRL sections.

The ARRL Board also discussed the recent Petition for Rulemaking filed by the Central States VHF Society and plans to file timely comments on the proposal. The petition would amend FCC rules to formally segregate wideband and narrowband modes on VHF and UHF bands to eliminate interference from FM and packet in the so-called weak-signal portions of 6 and 2 meters and 70 cm.

The League's comments will support the intent of the petition, but the Board unanimously agreed that the petition, as submitted, "does not sufficiently establish a basis for the regulatory relief requested." As an alternative to the CSVHFS petition, the League's comments will suggest doing a better job of educating the amateur community about ARRL band plans. The League also plans to again try to get the FCC to acknowledge that VHF and UHF operation in accordance with ARRL band plans is "good amateur practice" and will seek supporting compliance efforts by the FCC.

The Board also announced the winners of several ARRL annual awards.

Elisabeth Price, KC8ALW, of Worthington, Ohio, is the winner of the Hiram Percy Maxim Memorial Award for 1998. The Maxim Award goes annually to an amateur under age 21 who has demonstrated exemplary ham

tear under age 21 who has demonstrated exemplary ham radio contributions and accomplishments. The award carries a \$1000 stipend, an engraved plaque and a trip to an ARRL convention for a formal award presentation.

Jerry S. Paquette, WB8IOW, of West Union, Ohio, and Roland Anders, K3RA, of Elkridge, Maryland, were named the recipients of the Herb S. Brier Instructor of the Year Award.

Barbara Pederson, KE4JZM, of Chapel Hill, North Carolina, won the Professional Educator of the Year Award.

David Timoshik, WA6AYI, of Winnetka, California, is this year's recipient of the Excellence in Recruiting Award.

Doug Smith, KF6DX, of Sedona, Arizona, won the Doug DeMaw Technical Excellence Award for his series "Signals, Samples and Stuff: A DSP Tutorial," in the March through September 1998 issues of QEX.

Peter Coffee, AC6EN, of Torrance, California, is the recipient of the Philip McGan Award for his work in publicizing Amateur Radio.

In other action, the Board:

- Directed Executive Vice President David Sumner, K1ZZ, to study the development and implementation of electronic QSL submittals for ARRL-sponsored awards.

- Requested that Headquarters staff study the implementation of an ARRL Web-based member survey capability and report to the Executive Committee before the 2000 annual meeting in January.

- Directed Sumner to develop and implement strategies to induce developers "and others who have influence in these matters" to relax restrictive covenants pertaining to Amateur Radio and antennas "so that Amateur Radio activities might be broadly accommodated."

- Heard "A Vision for Amateur Radio: Progress Report" from Sumner that addresses where Amateur Radio will be in 2010 and the challenges the League and the hobby will face.

- Officially recognized "the historic and benevolent contributions of the National Traffic System and its operators to the ARRL and the public service program, on the occasion of NTS's 50th anniversary."

- Formally put in place a mediation program, as part of the previously approved ARRL Alternative Dispute Resolution Service.

- Directed the Headquarters staff to review the effects of contest rules pertaining to rovers and to make recommendations for promoting the participation by rovers.

- Presented a National Certificate of Merit to Nate Brightman, K6OSC, "for his dedicated efforts" that have resulted in continuous operation of the W6RO station aboard the Queen Mary by an Amateur Radio staff of more than 100 volunteers.

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the address database, and mails the paper in Portage. He also sets up pages two, three, fourteen, and fifteen.

We lost a lot when Jim Decker, WB9UQT, died just under two years ago of adenoma. While he was never one to show much in the way of emotion, his support of this effort was unwavering. Jim was the youngest BSSS staffer. His early death made things seem to be out of sequence. We all miss him. He was a man of many gifts and talents. He was always kind and gracious. I don't believe I ever saw him lose his cool, at least not for very long. They don't make Jim Deckers very often.

When a Web version is actually created and ready for its "premiere", we'll tell you here.

We are fairly well set to create pages for the web, with a zippy Celeron machine generously donated by some great friends. (That will need at least 32 MB of added SDRAM and a bigger hard drive, but those can come along later. The reason for lots of memory is imaging work. I have worked with 8 x 10 photos at 600 dpi, folks. Those files get to 90 MB in a hurry, so even 128 MB is not quite adequate. Windows 98 wants its huge chunk of space as well. Stan Kaplan can explain that better than I.)

We need to find the right HTML software. And if one shows up somewhere, we can probably make good use of a good digital camera. The "standard" 640 x 480 pixel images are often not detailed enough to clearly

display everything in a frame.

I should mention that as we change over, all the participating clubs will be in the web version, too. We anticipate a "page" of swapfest card ads. It will take time, but to do it right, we'll need time to learn a great deal about whatever new software we get. Best to learn and get it as right as possible at the beginning than than to do a lousy job and try to fix it later.

And with that, dear readers, we shall see you next month with another dazzling issue.

Thanks for reading.

Hams in and around Wisconsin do interesting things all the time. Other hams are interested in what's happening. Share those activities and events in the pages of BSSS! Snail mail stories and good photos to Jim Romefanger, K9ZZ, editor, Badger State Smoke Signals, 412½ Ash Street, Baraboo WI 53913-2501. E-mail: smokesigs@baraboo.com

PARTICIPATING CLUBS AND ORGANIZATIONS

Wisconsin Valley Radio Association

Kim Kunze, N9SDL, Secretary

P.O. Box 363 • Wausau, WI 54402

Six Meter Repeater: 51.19 Input/52.89 Output

Meeting Minutes July 6, 1999

Meeting was called to order by KB9DED. Members present: N9NMH, N9IAB, N9TTA, N9MEA, KB9RXA, KB9FRB, KB9DZG, N9SDL, W9WW, KB9MCZ, N9SDI, N9PHC, KB9PVI, N9LIA, KB9RXB, K9QM, and N9WPH. Minutes approved by N9IAB and K9QM. Treasurer's report approved by W9WW and N9LIA.

New Business

Discussion took place regarding Field Day. We operated W9SM as 5A WI. Don, W9WW will be compiling the contacts and submitting for the contest. We basically operated most of the 24 hr period with the exception of a cat nap from about 2 a.m. to 5 a.m.

Discussion took place regarding the repeater codes and the need for the net controls to have them so that we can conduct the net in an organized manner. It was decided that the new W9SM trustee should have a copy of all the controller codes and that the net controls should have the five that will allow them to set up for nets.

Tony, K9QM, was unanimously voted the new W9SM trustee of the call and repeaters. This as a result of motion by N9SDL and 2nd by N9SDI. N9SDL will complete and submit the 610B.

Rich, N9WPH, accepted the appointment to the WVRA board of directors to fill Andy's position.

The W9SM packet station will be taken off the air. The controller went south and there was very little activity on it.

Nate Schuk from the Samoset Counsel

made a presentation to the club to consider sponsoring a BSA Venturer group of teenagers who are interested in ham radio. After considerable discussion, it was decided that serious thought be given to this and look for two leaders from the club to work with the teens. We will need these two individuals plus at least three more to form a committee that will work with the Venturer group. The meetings are planned and conducted by the teens and will meet as often as they feel is needed which could be once a month or once a week, etc.

Old Business

The WVRA now has a web page. It can be accessed at

<http://WWW.dwave.net/~wvra>

or at

wvra.cjb.net.

The WVRA also has an email address of w9sm@arrrl.net.

Check out the web page, as it lists upcoming events, meeting minutes, packet radio information, ham radio dealer links, manufacturer links etc.

Technician classes will be offered by the WVRA this fall. Look to the web page or up coming meeting minutes for more details. There will be no cost for the course but you must purchase the *Now You're Talking* text book.

Adjournment: W9WW & N9TTA.

Respectfully submitted:
Kim Kunze, N9SDL

Quarter Century Wireless Association Southeastern Wisconsin Chapter 162

Larry McCalvy, WA9JMO
5400 Six Mile Road
Racine, WI 53402



As Field Day 1999 assumes its place in the annals of history, Chapter 162 methodically scans the hand written data accumulated during the marathon weekend of Amateur Radio contacts. As our "official" report is readied for its trip to ARRL headquarters, our total points should reach somewhere in the low 2000 range. Using our club call, K9AKG, the Chapter's Field Day event was setup in a hay field at Decision Farm in Racine, operating as 3-A QRP battery powered, the gang was hungry for contacts. Our third annual exercise allowed us to test our emergency skills and the club's equipment. The Chapter's on-the-air time was limited to daylight hours only. We all felt that nights were meant for sleeping. The on site chapter members, some worked, some visited, were: Spencer Clope, W9LDH; Bob Jensen, W0WLN; Fern Fisher, W9LCJ; Herb Ladwig, W9PHJ; Al Algiers, W9HR; Bob Burgermeister, W9EH; Bill Komistra, W9OVZ; Chuck Knotek, W9GKM; Ed Konicek, W9NVK; Larry McCalvy, WA9JMO; Jim Taylor, K9JT; and our Field Day chair, VP and Net Control Operator, Ken Knoff,

N9NBC. Al Marini's radio, minus Al was placed into service. One of the club's transceivers died.

Mark your calendars if you have not done so as yet, for Sunday, August 15. Our Annual Picnic will be held at Decision Farm, 5400 Six Mile Road, Racine. In addition to a large charcoal and two gas grills, the Chapter will provide soft drinks, watermelon and roasted corn-on-the-cob. Attendees are asked to bring their own meat to grill and a dish to pass. Swimming, fishing, boat rides and a garden tour will also be available. Postcard reminders are normally sent to make sure all our members are personally invited.

With PJ's Bar and Grill closing, our September 19th business meeting may be at the Meadow Restaurant in Franksville. The details should be worked out by the picnic and may also be obtained during our Thursday evening net on 147.270 MHz at 9 p.m.

73,
Larry McCalvy,
WA9JMO

The Racine Megacycle Club



Club Station W9UDU • Racine, WI
Dennis Doonan, W9DAD, Secretary
c/o RMC • P.O. Box 3 • Racine, WI 54301-0003
e-mail: w9udu@wi.net

Web: <http://www2.wi.net/~hamradio/>
Voice mail: (414) 552-6RMC • ARRL Affiliated

Providing communications for American Red Cross and ARES

Racine Megacycle Club Field Day 1999

The Racine Megacycle Club conducted its 1999 Field Day exercise on June 26 and 27, 1999, at Decision Farm, 5400 6 Mile Road in Caledonia, Wisconsin. Members of the club and a few others participated. The site is the home of Larry and Wendy McCalvy (WA9JMO and N9PAC).

The club decided to operate class 2A this year; operating one station on HF/SSB and one station on HF/CW. In addition, several club members set up and operated a Novice/Technician station on 6 meters and 2 meters.

Participants met for breakfast at about 0800 Saturday morning and then split up to go either directly to the site, or to pick up equipment at the Racine Red Cross building. Station preparation and set up started by about 0930.

The HF stations went on the air at 1300 local time (1800Z) and were operated more or less continuously until 1300 local on Sunday.

Tear down and transportation of equipment was completed by 1530 local on Sunday.

No participants were injured or killed. The only casualty seemed to be fatigue and sunburn.

A raw score of 2396 was achieved by the operation. The score was computed by using the ARRL submission form. A summary of the QSOs follows:

Band	CW QSOs	Phone QSOs
160	0	0
80	10	35
40	172	4
20	111	142
15	24	156
10	0	88
6	8	108
2	0	15
Totals	325	548
Points	650	548

There was an additional x2 multiplier for operating with less than 150 watts output for all stations. Additional bonus points were scored for making at least 5 QSOs using only "natural power", for using 100% "Emergency Power" (generators), for attempting to get media publicity, for sending a message to the Section Manager and for copying the ARRL Field Day message. The final calculated score is up to the ARRL.

Highlights and Observations

• **Generators** - The club's "Generac" 5KW had problems on start up. There didn't seem to be any spark, and the engine would not start up. KB9UGH and KB9UGG took charge and did some troubleshooting. They eventually got it running by bypassing the kill switch and fixing a leak in the fuel pump. The generator should be repaired before it is used again.

A second generator was loaned to the operation by Metropolitan Milwaukee Auto Auction (N9WHR) and was transported to the site by KB9TPT. This is the second year we have used this generator, and it performed flawlessly.

The generators were closer to the CW tent than they should have been. The noise from the engines was quite bothersome. A

different position for them should be thought out ahead of next year's operation.

Gasoline was purchased locally for the generators and \$18.60 was spent on fuel. Gasoline was purchased on Saturday morning (10 gallons) and again on Sunday morning (6 gallons). It was reported that one generator ran out of gas during the night. More attention should be paid to checking the fuel supply on a regular basis.

• **Logging** - three computers were used for logging QSOs. Two were provided by W9EH, and KA9RZL provided the computer for the CW operation. All machines were using "LOG-EQF" as a logging program.

The KA9RZL computer was using a compression routine for its floppy disk drive. This caused the contents to be unreadable when it came time to summarize the logs. The set up of the CW computer was different from the other machines as well. This caused a few minor differences in the formatting of entries. While this is not a substantial problem, it makes some of the entries more difficult to read.

There were many errors in the logs. Most of them were caused by inexperience of the logging operators with the program or the format for required entries in the logs. This did not cause any substantial problems with using the entries for scoring, but the logs are far from consistent. More attention should be paid to making sure that all operators are familiar with proper format and logging requirements.

• **Equipment** - A Ten-Tec transceiver and MFJ antenna tuner were loaned to the operation for use in the phone tent by N9WHR. The rig had a problem with its power supply causing it to become unusable on receive. The problem eventually went away, but caused the loss of several contacts early in the operation. The antenna tuner proved to be not functioning at all. This was discovered before the start time of the contest, and a club-owned antenna tuner was substituted. During the troubleshooting of this problem, the operators (KA9OIL and KC9IS) tried three separate antennas, having them lowered and raised on the antenna mast. Much time and energy was spent thinking that the antennas were defective. Actually, they probably were performing just fine. The antenna finally used for the contest was an 80-meter dipole.

Incidentally, the substitute antenna tuner was picked up at the Red Cross building on the single return-trip-for-things-we-forgot. K9UUT and KB9UGG went back to get the ground rods, which didn't seem to find their way on to the trucks the first time out.

KA9RZL provided the ICOM IC-706 used in the CW operation. It performed without a hitch. It was configured for use with the computer, taking advantage of features of the radio and the logging program. The CW operation used a G5RV wire antenna.

KB9LLV provided his IC706 for use on 6 meters and 2 meters in the Novice/Tech tent. It worked well. This operation started with a vertical antenna and switched to a 6/2-meter quad provided by N9WHR. It was mounted on a ten-foot mast and rotated by hand.

An attempt was made to score additional points by making a contact through the AO-27 satellite, but it was unsuccessful.

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Racine Megacycle Club

Continued from page 10

ful. N9MGH did make a contact through AO-27, but it was before the contest officially started, so it didn't count. A real shame to have lost this one. It made Gary's day, nevertheless.

Many operators and others on site used hand-held radios on 146.46 MHz simplex to keep in touch with each other, especially during the set up phase. We could communicate with very low power quite efficiently. This proved to be very useful.

On Sunday, KA9OIL brought his Icom IC-756 to use in the phone tent. It worked very well, and it was a real treat to use such a sophisticated radio.

It should be noted that none of the club's transceivers was used for the Field Day operation. The club should think about this for next year. We haven't really tested the club's capabilities if our equipment remained in storage. Also, if we don't intend to use the club equipment at field day, we should consider selling it until we have a permanent club station.

The state of the stored antennas, tents and other gear used for Field Day is questionable. None of the gear was inventoried, examined or tested ahead of time. While this provides an opportunity for solving problems that occur, it might be better to prevent the problems from happening.

• **Operating** - this year we seemed to have more interference between the CW and phone operations. This happened regardless of what bands were being used by either tent. The antennas are close together, and we were probably suffering from overload on the receivers. More separation between antennas should be planned.

There was no plan as to who would staff the stations at any given time. By studying the log files, it can be seen that there were periods late at night when no one was operating. More effort should be put into making sure we have the stations staffed round the clock.

We gave the opportunity to some newer hams to operate on HF during the contest. Several of the code-free Technicians took advantage and tried their hand at operating. Notable were KB9UGG, KB9QZR, KB9SXI, the entire family of Weeks hams (John, Matt and Patrick), and KB9RMA.

There was no "assignment" of more experienced operators to oversee the participation by the newer operators. This was another aspect of the operation that happened by chance, but should be planned.

Operator sign in sheets seemed to get lost in the shuffle at each station. We should pay more attention to what is actually on the operating tables. Additional reference material (lists of section identifiers, prefix allocations, band plans, contest rules, etc.) should be available for the operators to use. Scratch pads and pens seemed to be readily available this year. However, the sheets of paper tend to accumulate and get in the way after a while. A trash container should be available in each station.

Some mention was made of attempting to link the tents together by computer. This had been done in the past with marginal success. The logging program we used does not allow for this kind of operation. We would have to investigate other logging programs and provide for cabling and interfacing the computers. Linking the stations this way would allow an operator to see which band was being used by the other stations and avoid interference and rule violations. We could accomplish the same thing by making a sign for each tent that could be hung in a visible manner to allow the others to see what band was being used.

• **Safety** - No one was assigned to check for obvious safety problems during our event. Fortunately, no one was injured, but there were several problems that should have been noticed and fixed early. For example, the fire extinguisher was not with the generators until they needed refueling. Also, there were a couple of guy ropes and antenna tie-offs that should have been in different positions. As these and others were noticed, they were corrected. Safety should be a primary concern in this kind of operation. The club should

appoint or designate someone who will be responsible for checking for safety problems early in the operation and making sure they get corrected in a timely fashion.

• **General atmosphere** - It was mentioned that there were no "butt cans" for smokers this year. We should have provided them, as it would have made clean up go a bit faster. We had only one trash can, which didn't seem to be much of a problem because the club didn't provide any food this year. With more food, more provisions for trash must be made.

We had a little rain on Saturday evening, but it didn't seem to affect the operation much. We had no plan for what to do with equipment in the event of a storm. We probably should think this through for next time.

We did provide some items for insect control and they were well used. The items were donated.

The tents we used for operating were placed without much thought. The CW tent should have been much farther away from the generators to provide for a quieter environment. The west end of the peninsula was occupied by tents used for sleeping by the few who stayed the night. This seemed to work out well, but it was also not planned.

Vehicles were parked in the operating area. This took up quite a bit of space and probably contributed to the placement of the tents. Perhaps the vehicles should be unloaded and then moved out of the area so that they don't interfere with placement of other equipment.

Visitors and operators not busy with anything else seemed to congregate near the phone tent because it was a convenient place to sit and talk. This is often distracting to the operators. One of the tents should be designated as a "social" area and not used for operating. That would provide a place for the social activities without disturbing the operators.

An additional tent would provide a place for operators and visitors to eat, rather than at the operating tables. While the club made a decision to not purchase any food or beverages for this event, a coffee pot would have been a welcome addition. The club could have provided a cooler and ice for storage of beverages brought by the participants.

The additional tent could be used as "headquarters" for the operation, providing a place for visitors to pick up information about ham radio and sign our guest log (which got lost in the shuffle this time out).

All told, we had a good time at this year's Field Day outing. As usual, the club score will not be the highest in the country, but our club does not concentrate its efforts on winning the contest. We provide an event to "train" new operators, we offer an opportunity for members to work together on a project and we do test our emergency preparedness, at least to some extent.

Quite a number of other people helped with our field day activity. Those that I remember who were not mentioned above include KB9TPB, KB9TPU, KB9RRX, AA9GB, KF9ZT, N9ZWN and N9PYA. We had help from a few unlicensed recruits, including Tony Marchant (XYL of KB9UGG). There were also numerous visitors to the site, including W9LCJ, K9JT, N9ZWE, N9ZWI, K9AKH, KB9HSY, and KE9SW. I may have missed a few. The club wishes to thank everyone who helped or stopped in to wish us well.

Bob Burgermeister, W9EH

W9R

If you worked the special event station on the Great Circus Train, W9R, you may be waiting for your certificate. Hang on, folks. The over-printed certificates just got back from the printer, and there is still a page of information to set up and send along with the certificates. If you worked us and didn't know this, you need to send a 9 x 12 SASE with THREE units of US first class postage to Jim Romelfanger, K9ZZ, 412 1/2 Ash Street, Baraboo, WI 53913-2501. Patience, please! A story next month here in BSSS.

Wisconsin Association of Repeaters



Mark Heimmermann, KF9CS, Secretary
1523 E. Moonbeam Tr. • Appleton, WI 54915

Meeting Minutes June 12, 1999

Meeting was called to order by the Chairman, Gary Bargholz, at 1:06 p.m. It was held at The Big Moose Inn in Tomahawk.

Introduction of members and guests:

KF9CS	Mark Heimmermann
K9GTQ	Tom Ross
N9MBL	Jolene Ross
N9TD	Art Kratz
KF9ZU	Bette Kratz
W9YPY	Jim Caldwell
W9YZS	Joe Priebe
WB9RBD	Jim Broulette
WA9POV	Dave Knaus
WB9TYT	Dan Bolander
N9VSV	Jeananne Bargholz
N9UUR	Gary Bargholz
KA9TCC	Larry Diegel
K9PJB	Dick Drew
WZ7V	Barry Norrgron
KA9BHK	Diane Hamman
W9BHL	Mike Hamman
KD9HH	Bill Volm
N9KII	Diane Volm
WD9GFY	Mike Kelly
W9IXG	Don Michalski

Secretary's Report

There were no additions or corrections to the minutes. Tom Ross, K9GTQ, made a motion to accept the minutes of the last meeting as printed in the newsletter. The motion was seconded by Dave Knaus, WA9POV, and approved by the members present.

Treasurer's Report

Balance on 3/13/1999	2191.20
Expenses	(469.37)
Income	1433.27
Balance on 6/11/1999	3155.10

There were no outstanding expenses at the time of the report. Joe Priebe, W9YZS, made a motion to accept the treasurer's report as presented. The motion was seconded by Jim Caldwell, W9YPY, and approved by the members present.

Newsletter Report

The next newsletter will have a new look. It will contain the masthead indicating WAR's membership in the NFCC. The current issue contains WAR's PL plan on the frequency directory. If you have an article to submit to Ray, WD9HOD, please submit it one month before day of the next meeting.

Coordinator's Report

Dan, WB9TYT, highlighted his activities since the last meeting. It has been a busy couple of months. Dan listed all the new repeater coordinations and has caught up with the annual flood of renewals.

There are two forms available on the WAR web site. One is for the annual update, "Membership Application / Coordination Update Form", and the other is for new coordination, "Coordination Application Form". The web page URL is <http://web.gmtcom.com/~war/forms.htm>.

If you want confirmation that your repeater is current, check the web site for the current frequency list or the latest newsletter. The repeaters which are current contain an "*" and the date the information was updated.

Please send all renewals to the Treasurer Jim Sheetz, K9OQO. This places the update into the system and ensures that the newsletter database is updated.

Chairman's Report

IRA: Gary expects the final copy of

the agreement to be received from Dick Isely. The change addressed WAR's concern over remote repeater sites. The wording of the change is "Remote receivers shall require coordination if they are located greater than one-third of the distance between reduced-spaced co-channel repeaters and they are located within twenty miles of the Illinois/Wisconsin State Line." With only these changes Gary thinks he will sign the agreement after he reviews it. Other groups are interested in what WAR and IRA have setup to provide more frequencies and allow further experimentation.

MACC: Annual meeting was held on-line. MACC dues have been suspended until further notice. The following amateurs were elected to serve on the MACC Executive Committee:

President: Dick Isely, W9GIG
Vice-President: Nels Harvey, WA9JOB
Secretary: Ken Bird, W8SMK
Treasurer: Denny Crabb, WB0GGI
Member-At-Large: Ken Enenbach KC0WX
Member-At-Large: Cliff Bade, W8CJB
Member-At-Large: Ken Rau, K7YR

NFCC: Dick Isely and the NFCC board presented an open discussion to all amateurs on "Is mandatory repeater coordination needed now?". The consensus of those present is "Yes, it is needed". Riley Hollingsworth, K4ZDH, feels repeater coordination is the right choice.

The ARRL board reviewed the NFCC's PRM and requested further information and examples to demonstrate the need for coordination. The PRM committee is gathering the information for the next ARRL board meeting. If the ARRL does not approve the PRM the NFCC will still submit it.

There is one option left if the FCC decides not to make a rule change to Part 97. Instead something similar to what is done in the commercial spectrum where everything is a MOU (Memo Of Understanding). This would give the FCC the power to enforce the coordination of repeaters. We should hear more information by the next WAR meeting.

Riley Hollingsworth, K4ZDH: Riley, of the FCC, was present at Dayton and discussed his priorities for Amateur Radio. The first thing Riley wants to attack is how the HF bands are viewed by other countries. While attending an ITU meeting, a country brought in a recording of some of the activities on 80 meters and asked if the US needs more spectrum for such activities. This made any advancements in the HF band difficult.

The second priority is to track down violators and prosecute them. He is particularly looking for any reports on interference with 2-meter repeaters. If you have interference from a paging system give Riley a call.

The third priority is to ensure the future of Amateur Radio. He related a story of a young amateur who passed his Extra Class. Riley asked him how it felt to be able to transmit on all the bands. The lad replied he was unable to operate on 80 meters. When asked, "How come?" he replied that his father told him "80 meters was inappropriate for a young person".

Old Business

The status of W9RIC's conversion from 442.125 to 443.175 was unknown. Dan said he would check on Rick's progress later.

New Business

The problem is that some trustees are dead, moved or do not know they are the trustee on record. It was proposed that a

Please turn to page 12

Wisconsin Nets Association Ltd.

Art Evans, KA9KLZ, Secretary
213 N. Jefferson • Cuba City WI 53807-1558

WISCONSIN NETS

Net	WNA	Freq.	UTC	CDT	Manager
BWN	Yes	3985	1100	0600	W9RCW
BEN	Yes	3985	1700	1200	KE9VU
WSBN	Yes	3985	2230	1730	WB9WHQ
WNN	Yes	3723	2300	1800	KB9OCZ
WSSN	Yes	3645	2330	1830	N9BDL
WIN/E	Yes	3662	0000	1900	WB9ICH
WIN/L	Yes	3662	0300	2200	W9UW
RCRA	No	01/61 (Mondays CDT)	0030 (Menomonee Area)	1930	KA9OMC
Gr. Bay	No	72/12 (Green Bay Area)	0245	2145	WB9NRK
ARES	No	4.65/5.25 (South East/South Central Wisconsin)	0200	2100	
RACES	No	3993.5 (LSB Sunday)	1400	0900	WA9OAY

WISCONSIN NTS TRAFFIC REPORT June 1999

Precision. It's what we admire when we watch the drill team, the dance troupe or the aerobatics display. We praise it in a quarterback, a surgeon, and an accountant. It is also the attribute that makes a good traffic operator better, the skill that is essential in doing what we do for service -- getting the message through accurately.

Surely, we can practice getting the exact wording in the text of a message, use the check, ask for fills -- but we can develop accuracy in other ways, too. In net operation, it is especially important to get the call signs right. Acknowledging a station accurately is as meaningful as getting someone's name right. Know what it feels like to be called by the wrong name? That's the discouraging sense we get when someone mis-hears our call letters.

True, we can use phonetics, or repeat

slowly on CW, but part of the burden of good communication rests with the receiver. As a good listener, we need to concentrate, ask for clarification, and take notes. Whether this is done by a net control station, a station handling traffic, or in a casual QSO, we can practice accuracy - the essential element of traffic handling.

BPL

K9JPS / 952
K9RTB / 642

W9IHW / 718
K9GU / 589

PSHR

K9RTB / 411
K9FHI / 178
AG9G / 133
K9LGU / 113
KA9FVX / 81

AF9FA / 354
KA9KLZ / 139
W9CBE / 132
WD9FLJ / 112

73, Denny, K9LGU/STM

MONTHLY NET ACTIVITY SUMMARY June, 1999

NET	QNI	QTC	QTR	SSNS	NM
BWN	1281	1680	2252	30	W9RCW
BEN	491	71	802	29	KE9VU
WSBN	484	87	752	29	WB9WHQ
WNN	107	12	308	27	KB9OCZ
WSSN	81	15	159	16	N9BDL
WIN/E	188	85	313	30	WB9ICH
WIN/L	175	50	291	30	W9UW
D9RN	126	334	739	55	AF9FA

Wisconsin Association of Repeaters

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list of repeater trustees be listed on the web page. There was discussion about frequencies to be de-coordinated being placed on the web page.

Dan Bolander, WB9TYT, made a motion to "reimburse N9UUR and WA9JOB up to a maximum of \$200 each for expenses incurred to attend the NFCC meeting". The motion was seconded by Art Kratz, N9TD, and approved by the members present.

Dan Bolander, WB9TYT, made a motion to close the meeting. It was seconded by Tom Ross, K9GTQ. The meeting was adjourned at 2:02 p.m.

The next meeting will be September 11, 1999 in Milwaukee.

Respectfully submitted:
Mark Heimmermann, KF9CS, Secretary
Wisconsin Association of Repeaters,

Louisiana PRB-1 bill signed by governor

Louisiana Gov Mike Foster has signed PRB-1 legislation (House Bill 2088) to limit the control of local jurisdictions to regulate Amateur Radio antennas. The measure takes effect August 15. Louisiana Section Manager Lionel "Al" Oubre, K5DPG, has expressed his thanks and appreciation to all who helped make the bill a reality. It passed both chambers of the legislature unanimously.

-- thanks to Chris Vincent, W5CTV
The ARRL Letter

Taylor County Area Amateur Radio Club

Mike Schoenfuss, N9GHZ, President

P. O. Box 401

Abbotsford, WI 54405

MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT

The next regular meeting will be held on Thursday, August 12th. PLEASE NOTE the change in the date from the usual first Thursday meeting! This will be the club's summer picnic and will start at approximately 6 p.m. at the home of Roland Sacho, N9UBQ, N2302 Sunset Drive, Medford.

DIRECTIONS: From the intersection of Hwys. 13 & 64 go west of Medford to Sports Page(CTH Q); south about 1 1/2 mi. to CTH O; west 2 mi. to Sunset Drive; south 1/4 mile on the east side. OR from the intersection of CTH O and CTH E, 1 mile east and 1/4 mi. south. Directions/talk-in can also be obtained on the 147.15 (+600 kHz) Medford repeater.

Spouses and significant others are also invited. The picnic is open to ALL Taylor County area Amateur radio operators, whether or not you are a member of the club. If you are coming, you are also encouraged to invite, and bring along, potential new club members and potential new hams. It will be an opportunity for fellowship and socializing.

You should bring your own meat for the grill, your own beverages, and a dish to pass. There will also be a SHORT business meeting, replacing the regular

monthly club meeting for August. Among the topics to be discussed will be plans for the communications for the annual J.A. O'Leary Memorial Bike Race and Tour to be held on August 14th.

CLARK/TAYLOR COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO EMERGENCY SERVICE (ARES) NEWS

Mike Schoenfuss, N9GHZ
ARES Emergency Coordinator

Don't forget to try to check into the weekly ARES net held Wednesdays at 8:30 p.m. on the Medford repeater (147.75/147.15). If the repeater is down or not functioning properly, alternate frequencies, in order, are 147.15 MHz simplex and 146.52 MHz simplex. You're also encouraged to volunteer for net control duty for the net.

✓ Mark your calendars now for the annual J.A. O'Leary Memorial Bike Race and Tour, to be held on Saturday, August 14, 1999. Amateur radio communications will again be requested, and we will need many operators to cover this large event. For more information contact Cliff Stevens, AA9LE, phone 748-4763. □

FCC delays ULS deployment for amateurs

Ham radio will not become part of the FCC's new Universal Licensing System until August 16. The FCC has postponed ULS deployment for the Amateur Service for two weeks while it deals with several issues raised over the past few weeks by Volunteer Examiner Coordinators and others. "We are going to implement many of your suggestions in ULS prior to the new implementation date," an FCC spokesperson told the ARRL. The FCC had planned to implement ULS for amateurs on August 2.

The FCC also says it's revising its position on making telephone numbers part of the public ULS record. An FCC spokesperson said that any amateur licensee telephone numbers the FCC collects or already has collected will not be made available to the public. Supplying a telephone number, fax number or e-mail address when registering for or using the ULS is optional.

The FCC will issue a Public Notice soon that will outline transition issues, filing instructions and other information.

The FCC already has warned that applicants should anticipate processing delays during the first couple of weeks the ULS is in effect. In addition, daily amateur database updates may not be posted to

the Internet until all the kinks are worked out.

The ULS will replace the venerable Form 610 series with a Form 605, primarily an electronic document that also is available on paper from the FCC. Hams may continue to use the paper FCC Form 610 for another six months, but applicants must supply a TIN/SSN by writing it on the form. Hams already registered in the ULS instead can write their FCC-assigned Licensee ID Number on the Form 610 if they choose.

Registration in the ULS is required in order to receive FCC services in the future. Individuals eligible to hold a Social Security Number must provide this number to the FCC in order to be registered in the ULS. To register, visit

<http://www.fcc.gov/wtb/uls/> and click on

"TIN/Call Sign Registration."

For more information and frequently asked questions about the impending ULS, visit

<http://www.arrl.org/arrlvec/ulstext.html>.

The ARRL Letter

FCC rescinds license modification

The FCC has changed its mind and decided to rescind a license modification that would have kept David O. Castle, WA9KJI, of Evansville, Indiana, off the HF bands for two years. The FCC notified Castle of its change of heart July 8, but the man who imposed the sanction last May -- the FCC's Riley Hollingsworth, K4ZDH -- said he's not troubled by the turn of events.

"We have to call 'em as we see 'em," Hollingsworth said this week.

On May 19, Hollingsworth wrote Castle to say the FCC had information that Castle, a General-class licensee, had, on

May 1, engaged in "broadcasting and talking to no particular station for over an hour, during which time you prevented the use of the frequencies by others and maliciously interfered with other stations." Hollingsworth's letter had said that Castle had "falsely claimed" to be in contact with another station. As a result of the alleged violations, Castle's privileges below 30 MHz were suspended.

In reviewing Castle's response, however, the FCC reversed its stand and concluded that Castle was -- in the words of

Continued on page 13

ARISS equipment takes another step toward ISS

The equipment that will become the first Amateur Radio station on the International Space Station has completed a significant milestone in anticipation of its journey into space later this year. Following exhaustive qualification testing at NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center, the radios, TNC, power supplies, and connecting harnesses for the initial transportable ARISS ham station are on their way to Kennedy Space Center for launch this December during shuttle mission STS-101.

"The first set of flight hardware for Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS) project has passed all its tests and is on its way to Kennedy Space Center," said Will Marchant, KC6ROL. Marchant credited "a tremendous amount of work by Frank Bauer, KA3HDO, and his team of volunteers at Goddard Space Flight Center" for getting the qualification testing done. Marchant said the hardware was shipped to Kennedy Space Center July 9.

AMSAT President Keith Baker, KB1-SF, expressed his thanks and appreciation on behalf of AMSAT for getting the initial ham gear through qualification testing.

The initial ham gear -- primarily Ericsson commercial-grade handheld transceivers -- will support amateur operation from the ISS on voice and AFSK packet on 2 meters and 70 cm. The equipment package includes one 6W VHF and one 4W UHF transceiver plus an interconnecting box to distribute audio and power and a 1200-baud packet TNC. Marchant said the gear will provide the ISS with Amateur Radio capability similar to the voice and packet currently available to cosmonauts aboard the Russian Mir space station.

More sophisticated transportable ham gear will be delivered in late 2000 or early 2001. A rack-mounted permanent station is expected to be launched in 2003 or 2004. An externally mounted "microsatellitelike" station will launch in that time frame as well, Marchant said.

The ARISS external antennas will be mounted on the outside of the ISS Service module during a space walk scheduled for STS-101. Ultimately, four external antennas will be flown to support amateur communication on HF, VHF, UHF, L band (including GPS receive) and S band.

Qualification testing -- sometimes called "shake-and-bake testing" -- is required of all equipment bound for the ISS or used in manned spaceflight. The detailed, rigorous testing sequences are aimed at ensuring crew safety and minimizing equipment failure.

The ARRL Letter

Field Day pins demand exceeds supply

The ARRL Field Day 1999 pins have proven to be so successful that the initial supplies have been depleted. The original order of 1000 disappeared from ARRL's stockroom before Field Day. Another 500 were snapped right up shortly thereafter. Those who have ordered, but not yet received, one of the attractive FD pins may have a slight wait. The League continues to take orders and will reorder pins after the Field Day log submittal deadline passes on July 27. The pins are \$5.

The ARRL Letter

Hams at the "Edge of Space"

The rescheduled launch of NSS-25 is set for August 28th.

Near Space Sciences will try to launch their 25th mission to the "Edge of" Space this August 28th. NSS will be flying again one of their live video payloads, with the ever popular crossband audio repeater.

As with most of our payloads, this one will also be multi functional. On board will be live video transmitting to the ground the view, from possibly 100,000 feet.

A GPS unit will be set up in the standard APRS format. It will transmit to the ground the current latitude, longitude, and altitude of the balloon. If some technical details are worked out, The Chase teams will be able to digipeat their current position through the balloon as well. Anyone else within range of the balloon system, should also be able to digipeat through it.

And of course, on board will be the ever popular cross band repeater for all to enjoy. It will utilize a 2-meter uplink frequency, and a 70-cm downlink. In past flights this is one feature than many people always enjoy. This will also be used during the flight to keep in touch with the chase teams when possible.

Frequencies.

This gets a bit confusing to a lot of people out there. We hope this new way of explaining what will be happening on each frequency will make it easier to understand. We did say it was multi-function,

Modification rescinded

Continued from page 12

the FCC's July 8 letter -- "not at fault on the evening of May 1, 1999 . . . and further that your transmissions were interfered with by another Amateur Radio operator attempting to call a net into session (known as the 'Liberty Net')."

Castle's reply to the modification notice included a tape recording of the relevant time period. Hollingsworth said the FCC also reviewed other information, including a sworn affidavit, furnished by other amateurs who were in contact with Castle at the time of the alleged violations.

Hollingsworth said the FCC is aware of "numerous complaints" about WA9KJI,

right?

439.25 MHz output from the balloon will have a 3 watt transmitter running into a horizontally polarized antenna. On that 3 watts will be ATV Standard NTSC format. By the way, some of you that might be in a location where the balloon might provide you with a strong signal, 439.25MHz also is cable channel 60 on a cable ready TV or VCR. Try it; you just might see it.

Also on standard 5 kHz deviation NBFM will be the downlink from the crossband repeater, the GPS data in standard APRS mode, the output from the digipeater (if running), and some telemetry tones from the onboard color film camera.

but in the action at hand, the Commission was only concerned about what happened on the evening of May 1. "Based on the information that we have for May 1, I think he was right -- on that evening at that time."

Castle has been the recipient of an FCC warning and an official Notice of Violation for allegedly engaging in malicious interference, and his operating hours have been restricted in the past.

In his letter withdrawing the modification, Hollingsworth reminded Castle of the "numerous allegations of malicious interference" against him. Hollingsworth also said the FCC would continue to keep an ear on the 75-meter frequency in question. "3950 is, unfortunately, a trouble spot," Hollingsworth told the ARRL. "It's one of the sore spots on Amateur Radio, and we're going to be monitoring it very closely from now on."

The ARRL Letter

As you can see this will be a very busy frequency. We ask all participating in this mission to be as courteous as possible. You may have trouble getting into the payload at times. But you will eventually. On past missions we have made over 200 contacts through the balloon, so just hang in there.

144.325 MHz, vertically polarized, up-link to the balloon. We are going to try something a bit different on this flight that we usually don't do, publish the up-link frequency before the flight. But we are going to take a chance, and hope it all works out well. This will also be a very busy frequency, and critical to the mission.

Third Annual!

CIRCUS CITY SWAPFEST

Sponsored by
The Yellow Thunder Amateur Radio Club, Inc.
Baraboo, Wisconsin

Ham Radio, Computer & Electronics Extravaganza!

SATURDAY, AUGUST 14, 1999
7:00 A.M. UNTIL NOON

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Set-up 6:00 a.m.

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9:00am Code - 10:00am Written

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WB9FDZ

The Sauk County Fairgrounds is located on highway 33, on Baraboo's far east side.
From I-90/94: Take exit 106 (Hwy. 33) west to Baraboo.
From Hwy. 12: Take Hwy. 33 east at the Kwik Trip in West Baraboo

For more information contact: Steve, N9UDO at (608) 356-2313 voice,
(608) 356-4777 fax, steven9udo@baraboo.com e-mail or Bill, N9KXX at
(608) 643-6908 days, (608) 643-6453 evenings, or (608) 643-8850 fax.

Visit us on the World-Wide Web: <http://www.thelox.com/~sachulze/hamfest.htm>

For Advance Tickets Send Check With A Self Addressed Stamped Envelope To:
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THE WISCONSIN PACKETEER

Wisconsin Amateur Packet Radio Association

Allen Schnepf, NØGMJ, Treasurer

Ogema, WI 54459

Andy Nemec, KB9ALN, Editor • 453 Cottage Grove Avenue • Green Bay, WI 54304 • e-mail: kb9aln@juno.com

WAPR News - August, 1999

Hello to all. I hope your summer has been treating you well. August is somewhat of a turning point in the Wisconsin Summer - it's often the last chance we get to enjoy truly summer-like weather. After that, it's time to prepare for (and I hate to use the word) Winter. Enjoy complaining about the hot weather, you will quickly be relieved of the opportunity to do so!

As the summer activities wane, WAPR activities start anew. I have been mentioning for the last few months that we have been in the process of changing treasurers. I am pleased to announce that the changeover is now complete. The last of the records are being updated, and we are getting "back on track" toward our usual meeting schedule, albeit a bit late.

We have picked a date and place for an August meeting of WAPR. This will be in Green Bay on August 21st, a Saturday. I am waiting for confirmation of the place as this is being written, so I can't give you any more details than that. But that will soon change.

Rather than rely on the BBS network to get the word out about the meeting, we will be mailing out letters to current and former WAPR members inviting all to attend. We'll have all the pertinent information in there, so look for it in your mailbox soon.

We hope to also have a special presentation at that meeting as well, just to spice things up a bit. I will say no more than that, the suspense should serve as a bit of enticement to get you to the meeting (I hope). As always, we will have an open discussion of your packet questions and ideas, and will meet afterwards for a meal. What good would a ham radio meeting be if there were no promise of food afterward? We need to feed ourselves well in order to maintain our energy level - typing requires so much energy <GRIN>.

As we did last month, we will again include a membership form on this page. We all want to see WAPR grow and be effective in its mission of promoting packet radio, now's your chance to get in on the action. Please consider membership in WAPR as a way to keep packet radio on the forefront and growing in Wisconsin.

And that is all I have for this month. Until next time, 73 from Andy.

Updates on Past Articles

by Andy Nemec, KB9ALN

From time to time, I become aware of updated and new information concerning articles that have appeared in past editions of "The Wisconsin Packeteer". This month, I will share some of this information with you, starting with an article that appeared here last month.

Upping the Speed with Part 15 Devices.

Last month we talked about experimenting with cast-off wireless ethernet cards that have been popping up on the used market of late. These are "part 15" devices, which require no license to use. Just as handy is the fact that they also operate in two ham bands - 900 MHz and 2.4 GHz. I have found a couple of interesting resources for you to try if you are interested in experimenting here.

First off, there is a handy source of antennas for those units operating on the 2.4 MHz band. Many of you folks - especially those living in rural areas - have heard of, or even subscribe to a "wireless cable" service. Don't confuse these with the "DSS mini-dish" type satellite services. These are microwave services characterized by a rooftop antenna that somewhat resembles a "wire dish". These antennas look like a cross between the classic "corner-reflector" UHF antenna and a parabolic reflector seen on a satellite dish. The reflector is semi-parabolic, curved vertically only. They have a feed assembly consisting of a simple dipole that is stood off from the dish, again, similar to a satellite dish.

I have recently obtained one of these antennas that was abandoned by an ex-subscriber to such a service. After

careful inspection, I found a downconverter that was legibly labeled. It turns out that these antennas operate in the 2.5 GHz region of the radio spectrum. They are very wide-banded (this service uses FM for the television signal, making for a wide band-spread of channels). The actual antenna is a simple dipole, the semi-parabolic part of the antenna just reflects the signal and focuses the signal coming to/from the antenna probe.

The dipole itself should be easy to modify for 2.4 GHz operation. In addition to the lengthening of the actual antenna element, the dipole may have to be stood out a little further from the reflector to get the absolute optimum results from the antenna. However, you may not need to get too finicky about this for good results. In the future, I will be modifying one of these and publishing the results here.

In the meantime, keep your eyes and ears open for such "rural cable" providers who may be ceasing operations. With the cheap and easy availability of satellite television, you may see more of these enterprises closing up shop, and selling off their equipment. They may also abandon antennas installed on their former customer's homes. Many of these disgruntled customers may sell the antenna quite cheaply or even give them away out of disgust. It is a cheap way to experiment with something new and different.

New Networking Ideas and Other Information.

If you're interested in packet networking, and realize that it is getting more and more sophisticated every day, you probably have thought about the need for a remote computer at a node site. You may have considered this especially lately, as the price of a decent 386 computer for this use has dropped to free in many cases. The problem is, as you have maybe guessed, most node sites are not the ideal environment for your typical PC.

Well, there are some excellent suggestions on the subject in an article written by Don Rotolo N2IRZ in the August issue of CQ-VHF. Don covers what you need to do to make a typical PC "sitworthy" as part of a network node installation. He talks about removing the moving parts of the system, what to do for a power supply, and other related information. It's a good article and I recommend it highly if you have an interest in such an undertaking.

One of the more interesting ideas presented in the article is the use of a digital camera "flash memory card" as an IDE drive. For about \$60, you can obtain an adaptor from TAPR (the Tuscon Amateur Packet Radio Association, www.tapr.org) that will allow you to use one of these devices as a solid-state IDE drive. The cards themselves are pretty reasonably priced, too. There is also a version that includes the adaptor and the memory card, as well. This is a great idea for those who need a small hard drive for a PC in a harsh environment, like a node site.

If you can't find the magazine on your newstand, you can order some back-issues. Contact CQ-VHF at 1-800-853-9797 or E-Mail cq-vhf.com.

FlexNet and NEDA.

Many of you know that I have written about the North East Digital Association, NEDA in the past. Recently, a copy of the April NEDA Quarterly came across my desk. As you know, NEDA is digital networking organization that is responsible for creating some needed standards for packet networking.

Many of you also know that NEDA has been a big promoter of FlexNet, an AX.25 based networking system meant to replace TheNet nodes. This issue has some very good information on the various implementations of FlexNet, as well some sorely needed translations of the original German documentation. There is also a handy article that details how to connect to a FlexNet node from a TheNet node.

If you'd like to contact NEDA regarding obtaining this back-issue, you can reach them by mail at:

NEDA
P.O. Box 563
Manchester, NH 03105-0563

Or on the World-Wide Web at:
www.cam.org/~burt/neda/neda.html

And that is all I have time and space for this month. As I get new information on past articles, I will try to keep you updated.

Until next time, 73 from Andy.

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Allen Schnepf, NØGMJ, Treasurer W5000 SR 86 PO Box 558 Ogema, WI 54459			

THE TEST POINT

(continued from page 3)

December 11, 1999 Madison, WI
 December 18, 1999 Cottage Grove, MN
 December 18, 1999 Loves Park, IL
 December 18, 1999 Milwaukee, WI (BE)
 December 18, 1999 Oshkosh, WI (R.A.W.)
 December 21, 1999 Eden Prairie, MN
 Monthly, 1st Sat. Racine, WI
 (except January, July & August)
 Monthly, 1st Sat. Oshkosh (Omro), WI
 Monthly, 1st Sat. St. Paul, MN
 Monthly, 2nd Thu. Apple Valley, MN
 Monthly, 2nd Sat. Madison, WI
 Monthly, 2nd Sat. Blaine, MN
 Monthly, 3rd Tue. Eden Prairie, MN
 Monthly, 3rd Sat. Milwaukee, WI (BE)
 Monthly, 3rd Sat. Loves Park, IL
 Monthly, 3rd Sat. Cottage Grove, MN
 Monthly, 4th Sat. Bloomington, MN
 Monthly, Last Sat. Milwaukee, WI (MRAC)
 (except December)
 Monthly, Last Sat. Tomahawk, WI
 (January thru October only)
 Quarterly Eau Claire, WI
 (Second Saturday Jan., Apr., & Oct.)
 plus annual summer hamfest.)

Due to space limitations, we are unable to include the complete listing of times, locations and contact information for the above examination sites. Please see the July issue of BSSS for additional information on the above examination dates. We will be alternating the complete test location information and the club meeting information. If you have any new test date or location information please send it to Ken Ebner, K9EN at the address on page 2.

The following is new or changed information received since the last complete listing:

STEVENS POINT, WI

August 21, 1999

Exams held at the UWSP Science Building in Stevens Point. Testing starts at 9:00 a.m.

Many Swapfests/Hamfests offer exam sessions. If not shown above contact the sponsoring club in the Swapfest column on page 2.

The FCC now requires applicants to show their ORIGINAL AMATEUR LICENSE to the VEC. A copy of your license must be attached to your FCC form 610. You will also be required to have a photo ID, or other acceptable identification.

GENERAL RULES
FOR MOST EXAMINATIONS:

Be sure to check with sponsors in the event there are changes and/or errors in the dates or information given.

Some examinations require filing an FCC Form 610 and advance registration at least 30 days before the exam date. (Some VECs permit walk-ins. Check with sponsor.)

To register, you must first secure a copy of the current FCC Form 610 and fill it out completely (AND CORRECTLY). Get your form from an FCC Field Office, the ARRL. Send a 32c/ SASE if you request one from the ARRL. In most cases, forms can also be obtained from the sponsoring group.

ARRL/VEC examinations require a check for \$6.45 payable to "ARRL/VEC".

The FCC now requires applicants to show their ORIGINAL AMATEUR LICENSE or CSCE to the VEC. You must also have two good copies of your license or CSCE. A copy of your license or CSCE must be attached to your FCC form 610 and most VEC want a copy for their records. You will also be required to have a photo ID, or other acceptable identification.

Technician class licensees must show proof of testing before March 21, 1987, in order to upgrade to General with a code test only.

How to Attend a Meeting

To really succeed in a business or organization, it is sometimes helpful to know what your job is, and whether it involves any duties. Ask among your coworkers. "Hi," you should say. "I'm a new employee. What is the name of my job?" If they answer "long-range planner" or "lieutenant governor," you are pretty much free to lounge around and do crossword puzzles until retirement. Most jobs, however, will require some work.

There are two major kinds of work in modern organizations:

1. Taking phone messages for people who are in meetings, and,



Yellow Thunder Amateur Radio Club

WB9FDZ (Original Club Call)
 K9ODK (Robert L. Prine Memorial Call)

Raymond J. Matlosz, N9MLZ, Secretary
 450 West 2nd Street • Reedsburg, WI 53959



The July 6, 1999 meeting of the Yellow Thunder Amateur Radio Club was called to order at 8:10 p.m. by club vice president Bill Hommel, KA9QFJ. The minutes and treasurer's report were accepted.

The meeting began with members calling Pete Sweeney, WD9JIB who was stationed at Sauk County's EOC located in the basement of the courthouse. This was an exercise to determine the capability of the equipment and the geographical coverage.

The meeting was held at the EOC where Tim Seive, director, Sauk County Emergency Government prepared photo ID cards for members who could assist the county when needed in an emergency.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: A silent auction is being held for the FT 401 DX. Bids will be accepted until the next meeting. Contact Bill Klinkner.

OLD BUSINESS: It was noted that field day went well and fun was had by all. There was no wind nor rain and good food. Thanks to all who contributed to the event. Any electronic log files should be sent to Bill Hommel at Billh@baraboo.com. Planning continues for the third annual swap swapfest and there will be a committee meeting before the next meeting. Time, day and place to be announced.

NEW BUSINESS: Pete Sweeney reported on the

results of tonight's call-in before the meeting. He indicated there was good coverage. Jim Paul, N9LKY reported that a balloon launch is scheduled for July 17. Bill Hommel won the buck for buck night and graciously donated it to the Field Day Food Fund.

NEXT MEETING: Tuesday August 3, 1999 at 7:30 p.m., room 18, Baraboo Civic Center.

Following Members and Guests were present:

James Brann	KB9NXG	North Freedom
Maurey Gurgel	KA9TBU	Reedsburg
Raymond Matlosz	N9MLZ	Reedsburg
Jim Romelfanger	K9ZZ/W9R	Baraboo
Faith Brann		North Freedom
Jim Paul	N9LKY	Baraboo
Bill Hommel	KA9QFJ	Baraboo
Dave Estes	KB9QDE	Reedsburg
Anne Klinkner	N9PQL	Sauk City
Bill Klinkner	N9KCK	Sauk City
Patrick Klinkner		Sauk City
Thomas Harrison	N9PQJ	Reedsburg
Peter Sweeney	WD9JIB	Reedsburg

2. Going to meetings.

Your ultimate career strategy will be to get a job involving primarily No. 2, going to meetings, as soon as possible, because that's where the real prestige is. It is all very well and good to be able to take phone messages, but you are never going to get a position of power, a position where you can cost thousands of people their jobs with a single bonehead decision, unless you learn how to attend meetings.

The first meeting ever was held back in the Mezzanine Era. In those days, Man's job was to slay his prey and bring it home for Woman, who had to figure out how to cook it. The problem was, Man was slow and basically naked, whereas the prey had warm fur and could run like an antelope. (In fact it was an antelope, only nobody knew this).

At last someone said, "Maybe if we just sat down and did some brainstorming, we could come up with a better way to hunt our prey!" It went extremely well, plus it was much warmer sitting in a circle, so they agreed to meet again the next day, and the next.

But the women pointed out that, prey-wise, the men had not produced anything, and the human race was pretty much starving. The men agreed that was serious and said they would put it right near the top of their "agenda". At this point, the women, who were primitive but not stupid, started eating plants, and thus modern agriculture was born. It never would have happened without meetings.

The modern business meeting, however, might better be compared with a funeral, in the sense that you have a gathering of people who are wearing uncomfortable clothing and would rather be somewhere else. The major difference is that most funerals have a definite purpose. Also, nothing is really ever buried in a meeting.

An idea may look dead, but it will always reappear at another meeting later on. If you have ever seen the movie, "Night of the Living Dead," you have a rough idea of how modern meetings operate, with projects and proposals that everyone thought were killed rising up constantly from their graves to stagger back into meetings and eat the brains of the living.

There are two major kinds of meetings:

1. Meetings that are held for basically the same reason that Arbor Day is observed - namely, tradition. For example, a lot of managerial people like to meet on Monday, because it's Monday. You'll get used to it. You'd better, because this kind account for 83% of all meetings (based on a study in which I wrote down numbers until one of them looked about right). This type of meeting operates the way "Show and Tell" does in nursery school, with everyone getting to say something, the difference being that in nursery school, the kids actually have something to say.

When it's your turn, you should say that you're still working on whatever it is you're supposed to be working on. This may seem pretty dumb, since obviously you'd be working on whatever you're supposed to be working on, and even if you weren't, you'd claim you were, but that's the traditional thing for everyone to say. It would be a lot faster if the person running the meeting would just say, "Everyone who is still working on what he or she is supposed to be working on, raise your hand." You'd be out

of there in five minutes, even allowing for jokes. But this is not how we do it in America. My guess is, it's how they do it in Japan.

2. Meetings where there is some alleged purpose. These are trickier, because what you do depends on what the purpose is. Sometimes the purpose is harmless, like someone wants to show slides of pie charts and give everyone a big, fat report. All you have to do in this kind of meeting is sit there and have elaborate fantasies, then take the report back to your office and throw it away, unless, of course, you're a vice president, in which case you write the name of a subordinate in the upper right hand corner, followed by a question mark, like this: "Norm?" Then you send it to Norm and forget all about it (although it will plague Norm for the rest of his career).

But sometimes you go to meetings where the purpose is to get your "input" on something. This is very serious because what it means is, they want to make sure that in case whatever it is turns out to be stupid or fatal, you'll get some of the blame, so you have to escape from the meeting before they get around to asking you anything. One way is to set fire to your tie.

Another is to have an accomplice interrupt the meeting and announce that you have a phone call from someone very important, such as the president of the company or the Pope. It should be one or the other. It would be a sound fishy if the accomplice said, "You have a call from the president of the company, or the Pope."

You should know how to take notes at a meeting. Use a yellow legal pad. At the top, write the date and underline it twice. Now wait until an important person, such as your boss, starts talking; when he does, look at him with an expression of enraptured interest, as though he is revealing the secrets of life itself. Then write interlocking rectangles like this: (picture of doodled rectangles).

If it is an especially lengthy meeting, you can try something like this (Picture of more elaborate doodles and a caricature of the boss).

If somebody falls asleep in a meeting, have everyone else leave the room. Then collect a group of total strangers, right of the street, and have them sit around the sleeping person until he wakes up. Then have one of them say to him, "Bob, your plan is very, very risky. However, you've given us no choice but to try it. I only hope, for your sake, that you know what you're getting yourself into." Then they should file quietly out of the room.

From: KB8ZGU@N8QGE.#SWMI.MI.USA.NOAM



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Red, N9GHE: 920-684-9097

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For Information Contact:

Jim Staatz KG9MV at 715-838-9108

P.O. Box 1867 Eau Claire, WI 54702-1867

kg9mv@ecol.net http://www.ecarc.org

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http://www.thelox.com/~sschulze/hamfest.htm

Bill Klinkner, N9KXX

(608) 643-6908/643-6453

Red Cedar Repeater Association, Inc.

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February 22, 2000 • 7:00 p.m.

American Legion Post 53 • 634 Water Street

Eau Claire, WI

Steve Hart, KA9OMC
E616 810th Ave.

CONTACT:

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Knapp, WI 54749

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